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The Library Journal

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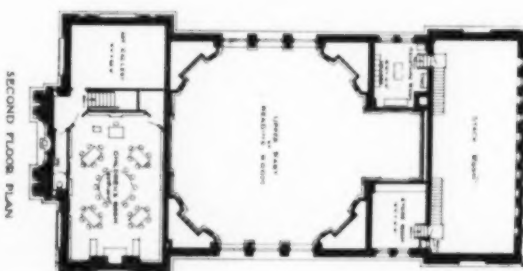
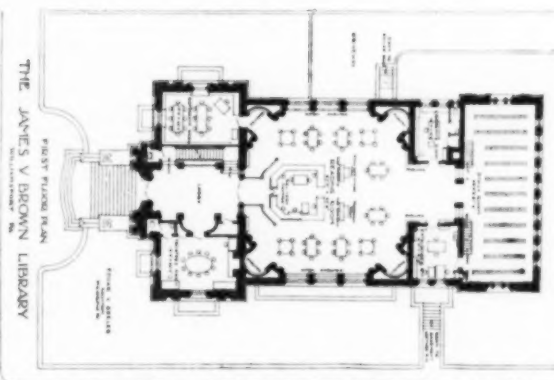
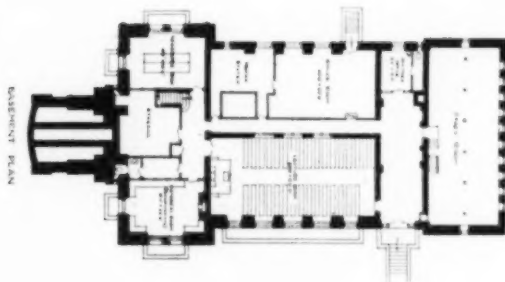
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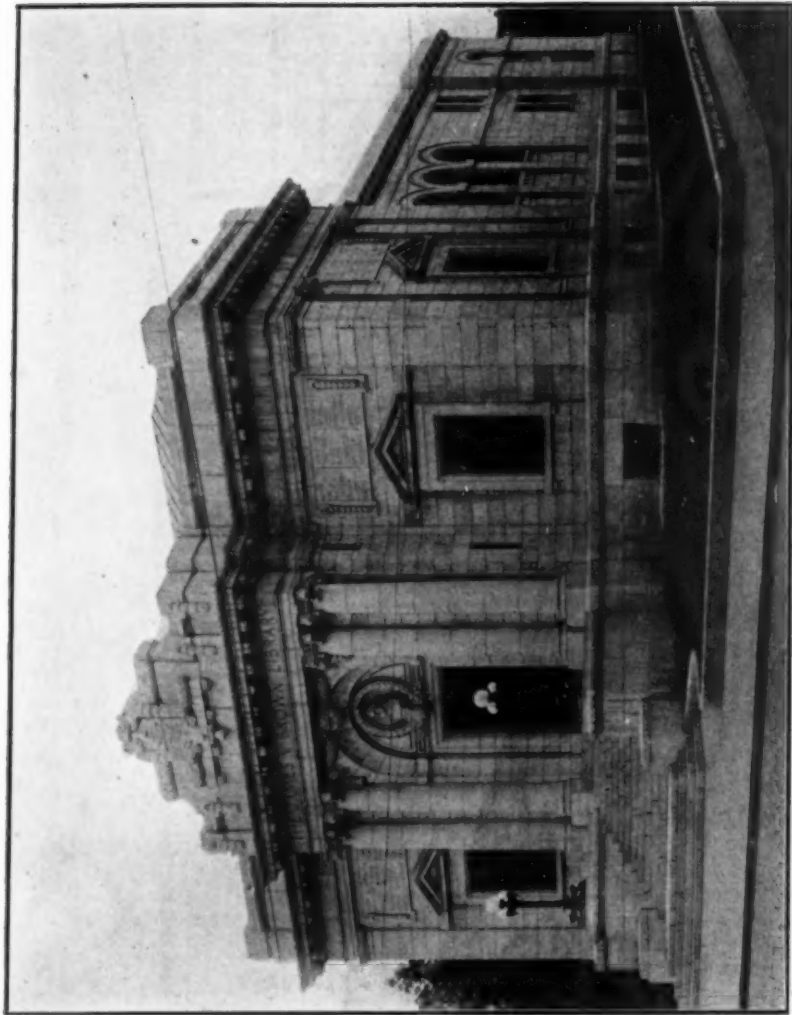
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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No. 7

No branch of library activity has shown so great a development within so short a period as the state library commission work. There are now 27 states that either through separate commissions or in connection with special departments of the state library are carrying on library extension. As a means of systematizing and developing this work the League of Library Commissions, during its four years of existence, has proved highly effective, especially in those Middle Western and Western states where the commissions in their organization follow nearly uniform lines. The report of the League's annual meeting at Asheville, given elsewhere, indicates how varied are the phases of this commission work. Essentially its purpose is the same: the establishment of a high standard of public library efficiency — efficiency in book selection, book distribution, the librarian's professional equipment, and the housing, administration and maintenance of the public library. The *A. L. A. Booklist* was one of the first results of the League's efforts in behalf of the smaller libraries; several of the most useful recent "tracts" and "handbooks" of the A. L. A. Publishing Board are due to the same inspiration; and at Asheville special attention was given to the advisability of more thoroughly co-ordinating the work of the various summer training courses under commission management. The place the League has taken as a center of co-operative work was recognized in the decision of the A. L. A. Council to refer to the League a request received from the United States Commissioner of Education, asking the co-operation of the A. L. A. in the preparation by the government of the next statistical report on public libraries in the United States. In its command of authoritative information regarding library conditions in 27 states the League should be the natural body to undertake this work, and with its co-operation the government statistics on libraries should be more accurate and up-to-date than has been possible heretofore.

In some states the work of a state library commission, as has been said, is conducted, to

more or less extent, through the state library. New York state long ago set the pace in doing commission work, and in the South its precedent is followed in the plans which Mr. Kennedy projected for the numerous proposed activities of the Virginia State Library. At the Asheville meeting of the National Association of State Libraries there was interesting indication of two trends of library extension work by a state library. Just as from the commission point of view there is question whether the state library can wisely fulfill the functions of a commission, so from the state library point of view there is the complementary question whether it is wise for the state library to become a far-reaching organization for library extension purposes instead of an effective library in the narrower sense. Massachusetts has a state library commission, which, under the lead of State Librarian Tillinghast as chairman, limits its activities to a minimum of expense and organization, in direct contrast to the New York plan — although the work is carried on from the state library as a center; and here for the past year there has been developed a scheme of voluntary inspection and encouragement of small library work with interesting and gratifying results. In Alabama, library extension work is done neither by a commission nor by the state library, but has fallen to the state archivist because he is the fit man. Dr. Owen is, in fact, an interesting example of how the work seeks the man, and the stimulus he is giving to library extension in his state is illustration of the fact that it is the man or men behind the organization, rather than the form of organization, which is significant.

THE new A. L. A. committee on library relations with the federal and state governments, appointed at the Asheville conference, was a happy thought of the retiring president, and under the chairmanship of that experienced diplomat, Dr. Canfield, it should have useful result. To it was committed the remains of the copyright controversy, representatives of both positions being placed on it

to watch any further developments on this subject. The question of a library post will also fall within its jurisdiction, and here its work if practical and temperate may be effective. A more difficult matter is in dealing with the harsh treasury regulations as to books imported free of duty, as the Treasury Department has once definitely stated that it does not see its way to liberalize a rule which to librarians seems an unnecessary application of red tape. It is to be hoped, however, that personal explanation and negotiation with treasury officials may result in modification, if not withdrawal, of the drastic rule now in force. In respect to state legislation, the committee can do much valuable work in stimulating legislation in the interest of libraries in states yet inactive and in obtaining wider co-operation and better methods in the work already well under way.

AMONG its activities in the general library interest the A. L. A. committee on bookbuying undertook to include negotiations with publishers which would lead to the reprinting for library purchase of books out of print, because of a lapse of popular demand, but for which there seemed to be a library demand. In the rush of modern competition, with thousands of books issuing from publishers' presses every year, and with the "big seller" craze still uppermost in publishers' minds, it was natural that some books of real and permanent value should be allowed to drop from publishers' catalogs, because the public appetite was turned in other directions. The committee's canvass revealed the fact that two books on the Scribner list were desired by nearly a hundred libraries, and this house willingly undertook to reprint a small edition of a hundred copies in courteous response to this library demand. There was no commercialism about this, for an edition of 100 copies does not pay a publisher for putting his machinery in motion, and it was fairly to be expected that the courtesy of the publisher would be appreciated. On the contrary, only six copies of one book and four copies of the other have been ordered, and the result, of course, puts a damper on such reprinting, if it does not put an end to it. It is not fair either to the committee on bookbuying or to the publishers that libraries which have enrolled their names as desiring a book should

not order the book when it is made ready for them. We hope that the libraries which practically pledged themselves to the committee on bookbuying will appreciate the good offices of the committee by "making good."

IN the case of the Children's Librarian against Huckleberry Finn, it may be doubted whether prejudice against Mark Twain's famous story exists to quite such a degree as is indicated in Mr. Pearson's amusing "brief for the defence;" in many children's departments, assuredly, it finds its place as a matter of course, and its popularity with boys goes unrebuked. On the other hand, it is true that there have been cases where children's librarians have committed themselves to the policy of establishing what the newspapers love to call a "ban" upon this particular book; but the criticism and comment evoked by such decision have generally been more extended and caustic than seem reasonable. Frequently what has been criticised as "exclusion" is no more than the placing of the book upon shelves set aside for children over fourteen—and surely children younger than that would not care for it. As to its effect upon youthful readers, it is to be feared that the human boy is still essentially a small savage, inclined—if he inclines at all to literature—to narratives with "something doing." How strongly his actions are influenced by the tales of adventure that he loves is a question it is not easy to decide; but in this connection it is interesting to note the account, in the current *Atlantic*, of the American dime novel, which presents as innocuous and in many ways useful a class of publications whose name is now a synonym for vicious influences.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.—At the desire of the Executive Board, which wishes to suggest to the Council further consideration of the relations of the LIBRARY JOURNAL with the A. L. A., the JOURNAL will for the present continue to act as the official organ of the Association and print in full official minutes and reports of committees, except those connected with the Proceedings of the conference. The Proceedings number of the *Bulletin* is being pushed forward under the direction of the secretary for as early issue as practicable.

CERTAIN PHASES OF LIBRARY EXTENSION*

BY HENRY E. LEGLER, *Secretary Wisconsin Free Library Commission*

DREAMING of Utopia, an English writer of romance evolved a plan for a people's palace, centering under one roof the pleasures and the interests and the hopes of democracy. Far away, if not improbable, as seemed the fruition of his dream, he lived to see prophecy merge in realization. Were this lover of mankind still living, he would know that his concept, though he saw it carried into being, had not permanence in the form he gave it. Ideals cannot be bounded by the narrow confines of four walls. And yet he had the vision of the seer, for that which he pictured in local form with definite limitations has, in a direction little dreamed of then, assumed form and substance in a great world movement. Not only in great hives of industry, where thousands congregate in daily toil, but in the small industrial hamlets and in the rural towns that dot the land lie the possibilities for many such palaces of the people, and in many—very many—of such communities to-day exist the beginnings that will combine and cement their many-sided interests.

This great world movement which is gathering accelerated momentum with its own marvellous growth, we call library extension. That term is perhaps sufficiently descriptive, though it gives name rather to the means used than to the results sought to be achieved. For certainly its underlying principle is of the very essence of democracy. There is no other governmental enterprise—not excepting the public schools—that so epitomizes the spirit of democracy. For democracy in its highest manifestation is not that equality that puts mediocrity and idleness on the same level with talent and genius and thrift, but that equality which gives *all* members of society an equal opportunity in life—that yields to no individual as a birthright chances denied to his fellow. And surely if there is any institution that represents this fundamental principle and carries out a policy in consonance, it is the public library. Neither condition nor

place of birth, nor age, nor sex, nor social position, serves as bar of exclusion from this house of the open door, of the cordial welcome, of the sympathetic aid freely rendered. In myriad ways not dreamed of at its inception, library extension has sought channels of usefulness to reach all the people. The travelling library in rural regions, the branch stations in congested centers of population, the children's room, the department of technology, are a few of these—to mention the ones which occur most readily to mind.

But these allied agencies do but touch the edge of opportunity. The immediate concern of those engaged in library extension must be with the forces reaching the adult population, and especially the young men and women engaged in industrial pursuits. For the mission of the public library is two-fold—an aid to material progress of the individual and a cultural influence in the community through the individual. Perhaps it may be said more accurately that the one mission is essential to give scope for the second. For, first of all, man must needs minister to his physical wants. Before there can be intellectual expansion and cultural development, there must be leisure, or at least conditions that free the mind from anxious care for the morrow. So the social structure after all must rest upon a bread-and-butter foundation. It follows as a logical conclusion that society as a whole cannot reach a high stage of development until all its individual members are surrounded with conditions that permit the highest self-development. Until a better agency shall be found, it is the public library which must serve this need. And therein lies the most potent reason for the extension of its work into every field, whether intimately or remotely affiliated, which can bring about these purposes. Its work with children is largely important to the extent that habits are formed and facility acquired in methods that shall be utilized in years succeeding school life. But its great problem is that of adult education. What an enormous field still lies untilled we learn with startling emphasis from figures

*Address delivered on behalf League of Library Commissions, Asheville Conference A. L. A., May 27, 1907.

compiled by the government. Despite the fact that provision is made by state and municipality to give to every individual absolutely without cost an education embracing sixteen years of life, there are retarding circumstances that prevent all but a mere fraction of the population from enjoying these advantages in full measure.

To quote a summary printed last year, "in the United States 16,511,024 were receiving elementary education during the year 1902-03; only 776,635 attained to a secondary education, and only 251,819 to the higher education of the colleges, technical schools, etc. Stated in simpler terms, this means that in the United States for one person who receives a higher education, or for three who receive the education of the secondary schools, there are sixty-five who receive only an elementary education, and that chiefly in the lowest grades of the elementary schools."

What gives further meaning to this statistical recital is the force of modern economic conditions. From an agricultural we are developing into a manufacturing people, with enormous influx from the rural into the urban communities. The tremendous expansion of our municipalities has brought new and important problems. Within the lifetime of men to-day a hundred cities have realized populations in excess of that which New York City had when they were boys. Vast numbers of immigrants differing radically in intelligence and in education from earlier comers are pouring into the country annually. It has been pointed out that some of the largest Irish, German and Bohemian cities in the world are located in the United States, not in their own countries. In one ward in the city of Chicago forty languages are spoken by persons who prattled at their mother's knee one or the other of them.

"The power of the public schools to assimilate different races to our own institutions, through the education given to the younger generation, is doubtless one of the most remarkable exhibitions of vitality that the world has ever seen," says Dr. John Dewey in an address on "The school as a social center." "But, after all, it leaves the older generation still untouched, and the assimilation of the younger can hardly be complete or certain as long as the homes of the parents remain comparatively unaffected. Social, economic and intellectual conditions are changing at a rate undreamed of in past history. Now, unless the

agencies of instruction are kept running more or less parallel with these changes, a considerable body of men is bound to find itself without the training which will enable it to adapt itself to what is going on. It will be left stranded and become a burden for the community to carry. The youth at eighteen may be educated so as to be ready for the conditions which will meet him at nineteen; but he can hardly be prepared for those which are to confront him when he is forty-five. If he is ready for the latter when they come, it is because his own education has been keeping pace in the intermediate years."

And again: "The daily occupations and ordinary surroundings of life are much more in need of interpretation than ever they have been before. Life is getting so specialized, the divisions of labor are carried so far that nothing explains or interprets itself. The worker in a modern factory who is concerned with a fractional piece of a complex activity, presented to him only in a limited series of acts carried on with a distinct position of a machine, is typical of much in our entire social life. Unless the lives of a large part of our wage earners are to be left to their own barren meagerness, the community must see to it by some organized agency that they are instructed in the scientific foundation and social bearings of the things they see about them, and of the activities in which they are themselves engaging."

Now if those who come in such limited numbers from the colleges and universities can keep step with the onward march of their fellows only by constantly adding to their educational equipment, what shall be said of that enormous army made up of conscripts from the ranks in the elementary schools? — the tender hands that drop the spelling book and seize the workman's dinner pail?

Thus we establish the duty of the state to its citizenship in providing means for adult education. And herein lies a great opportunity for library extension — not, indeed, in seeking to supplant agencies already existent; not in creating new ones that will parallel others, but in supplementing their work where such educational agencies do exist, in supplying channels for their activities through its own greater facilities for reaching the masses. Important as are the public museum, the public art gallery, the popular lecture or lyceum feature, the public debate associated with or incorporated in the library, of as far-reaching importance is another and newer allied agency developed in university extension. The response which has come in establishing corre-

spondence study as part of modern university extension is of tremendous significance. The enrollment in correspondence schools of a million grown-up men and women eager to continue their education and willing to expend more than fifty million dollars a year in furtherance of that desire, is a factor that challenges attention. It is a new expression of an old impulse. Eighty years ago the working people and artisan classes of Great Britain took part in a similar movement. Its beginning was prompted by a wish for technical instruction. Soon these mechanics' institutes grew into social institutions, with collections of books as a secondary interest. The institutes increased enormously in number, until through their medium more than a million volumes a year were circulated. Charles Knight issued his penny encyclopedia, Robert and William Chambers led the way for inexpensive books, the Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge came into existence. The industrial England was for the time being the workshop of the world. And in the later university extension movement which, along new lines, is to make of universities having a state foundation really the instrument of the state for the good of all the people in place of the few, the libraries have a great opportunity to become an important factor. Millions of the adult population will thus be given an opportunity to bring out in its best form whatever of talent and of intellectual gift they may possess. From a private letter written by Professor McConachie, of the University of Wisconsin, who has charge of the correspondence study in the department of science, are taken the following extracts: "Old ways of teaching are breaking down. Library study and written exercises are re-enforcing class room recitations and lectures. Each pupil of a term course studies one or two prescribed texts, reads and reports in detail a minimum of eight or nine hundred pages in a choice shelf collection of library books, takes and submits notes, writes brief themes and prepares for weekly quizzes wherein the members of his class section helpfully interchange ideas and information. The post-office is the medium for extension from the university to a vaster body of students everywhere throughout the state. The same materials, books, periodicals, newspapers and offi-

cial documents that the student of politics uses under the personal oversight of the university instructor are scattered in vast abundance everywhere. The state is one great library. The largest single collection is paltry beside this magnificent and ever-increasing supply of political literature that permeates every hamlet. Civic intelligence has thriven upon the mere haphazard and desultory reading of the people. Correspondence studies will put their scattered material into shape for them and systematize their use thereof." The library and the university may serve the citizen by giving unity and direction to his reading, helping him to hitherto hidden worth and meaning in the humblest literary material at his hand, by quickening his interest alike in the offices, institutions and activities that lie nearest to his daily life and in his world-wide relationship with his fellowmen. For the citizen on the farm, at the desk or in the factory, they point the way out of vague realizations into distinct and definite command of his political self, offer refreshing change from the narrowing viewpoint of individual interest to the broadening viewpoint of his town or state or country, and lead on to far international vistas of world-wide life and destiny.

Society has an interest in this beyond the rights of the individual. The greatest waste to society is not that which comes from improvidence, but from undeveloped or unused opportunity. So it becomes the duty of every community to make its contribution to the world, whether it be in the realm of invention, scientific discovery or literature. And how is this to be done if genius and talent are allowed to die unborn for lack of opportunity to grow? Wonderful as has been the progress of the world's knowledge during the last century of scientific research, who will venture to say that it constitutes more than a fraction of what might have been if all the genius that remained dormant and unproductive could have been utilized. From what we know of isolated instances where mere chance has saved to the world great forces that make for the progress of humanity, we can infer what might have been realized, under happier conditions. Every librarian of experience, every administrator of travelling libraries will recall such instances. One boy comes upon the right book, and the current

of his life is changed; another reads a volume, and in his brain germinates the seed that blossoms into a great invention; in a chance hour of reading a third finds in a page, a phrase, a word, the inspiration whose expression sets aflame the world. A master pen has vividly described the process:*

"Most of us who turn to any subject with love remember some morning or evening hour when we got on a high stool to reach down an untried volume. . . . When hot from play he would toss himself in a corner, and in five minutes be deep in any sort of book that he could lay his hands on; if it were *Rasselas* or *Gulliver*, so much the better, but *Bailey's Dictionary* would do, or the Bible with the *Apocrypha* in it. Something he must read when he was not riding the pony, or running and hunting, or listening to the talk of men. . . . But, one vacation, a wet day sent him to the small home library to hunt once more for a book which might have some freshness for him. In vain! unless, indeed, he first took down a dusty row of volumes with gray-paper backs and dingy labels—the volumes of an old encyclopedia which he had never disturbed. It would at least be a novelty to disturb them. They were on the highest shelf, and he stood on a chair to get them down; but he opened the volume which he took first from the shelf; somehow one is apt to read in a makeshift attitude just where it might seem inconvenient to do so. The page he opened on was under the head of *Anatomy*, and the first passage that drew his eyes was on the valves of the heart. He was not much acquainted with valves of any sort, but he knew that valvæ were folding doors, and through this crevice came a sudden light startling him with his first vivid notion of finely-adjusted mechanism in the human frame. A liberal education had, of course, left him free to read the indecent passages in the school classics, but beyond a general sense of secrecy and obscenity in connection with his internal structure, had left his imagination quite unbiased, so that for anything he knew his brains lay in small bags at his temples, and he had no more thought of representing to himself how his blood circulated than how paper served instead of gold. But the moment of vocation had come, and before he got down from his chair the world was made new to him by a presentiment of endless processes filling the vast spaces planked out of his sight by that wordy ignorance which he had supposed to be knowledge. From that hour he felt the growth of an intellectual passion."

And in this wise the world gained a great physician.

All this may be said without disparagement

*George Eliot, "*Middlemarch*."

to that phase of library usefulness which may be termed the recreative. There has been undue and unreasoning criticism of the library tendency to minister to the novel-reading habit. Many good people are inclined to decry the public library because all its patrons do not confine their loans to books dealing with science, or with useful arts. In their judgment it is not the legitimate function of the public library to meet the public demand for fiction. These same good people would hardly urge that the freedom of the public parks should be limited to those who wish to make botanical studies. The pure joy in growing things and fresh air and the song of uncaged birds needs no knowledge of scientific terms in botany and ornithology. These privileges are promotive of the physical well-being of the people; correspondingly, healthy mental stimulus is to be found in "a sparkling and sprightly story which may be read in an hour and which will leave the reader with a good conscience and a sense of cheerfulness." Our own good friend, Mr. John Cotton Dana, has admirably epitomized the underlying philosophy:

"A good story has created many an oasis in many an otherwise arid life. Many-sidedness of interest makes for good morals, and millions of our fellows step through the pages of a story book into a broader world than their nature and their circumstances ever permit them to visit. If anything is to stay the narrowing and hardening process which specialization of learning, specialization of inquiry and of industry and swift accumulation of wealth are setting up among us, it is a return to romance, poetry, imagination, fancy, and the general culture we are now taught to despise. Of all these the novel is a part; rather, in the novel are all of these. But a race may surely find springing up in itself a fresh love of romance, in the high sense of that word, which can keep it active, hopeful, ardent, progressive. Perhaps the novel is to be, in the next few decades, part of the outward manifestation of a new birth of this love of breadth and happiness."

There is, then, no limitation to the scope of library extension save that enforced by meagerness of resource and physical ability to do. In the proper affiliation and correlation of all these forces which have been enumerated and of other suggested by them, will develop that process whereby the social betterment that to-day seems but a dream will be brought into reality. The form this com-

bination will assume need give us no concern — whether its local physical expression shall be as in Boston a group of buildings maintained as separate institutions; or as in Pittsburgh, a complete, related scheme of activities covered by one roof; as planned in Cleveland, a civic center with the public library giving it character and substance; or as in New York, where many institutions, remotely located but

intimately associated, work toward a common end. Many roads may lead to a common center. Which one the wayfarer chooses is a matter of mere personal preference and of no importance, so that he wends his way steadily onwards towards the object of his attainment. In the evolution of these uplifting processes, the book shall stand as symbol as the printed page shall serve as instrument.

THE LIBRARY AND THE MUSEUM*

BY HENRY L. WARD, *Director Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Museum*

MUSEUMS and libraries have a common aim in the diffusion of knowledge among men; they are both collectors, one of specimens, the other of books; they are both enjoying a period of unprecedented prosperity not only in this country but abroad, increasing rapidly in numbers, in importance, and I trust in efficiency.

Whether or not it be because of these few and superficial similarities, it seems to be a fact that in some communities they are intimately associated in the minds of people; and quite frequently have I heard expressions indicating an impression that it was a natural and proper thing for libraries to create and maintain museums as departments of themselves. I have known of librarians entertaining this heterodoxy, and the letters that I received relative to this address clearly indicated that such a relationship was in the mind of the writers; therefore let us briefly examine this phase of the subject.

Let us first consider whether any successful, any important museum in the United States is so administered. I believe that there is no such example. In a professional way I have been for about 25 years familiar with museums and have come to possess a personal knowledge of most of them. However, to make sure that I was not overlooking any I have gone over the list of 259 natural history museums compiled recently by the then director of the New York State Museum. Of this list only two are associated in any manner

with libraries, and I have looked up the latest available returns in order to find out how they are doing. With one of these I have for several years been acquainted. It is one of a group consisting of library, art museum and natural history museum each in its own building and each under its own director, run by the "Library Association of ———." The museum is administered by a competent director and is excellent as far as it goes, but I notice that its growth is very slow and its influence is much restricted because of lack of money. The last report shows that the library expended \$35,027 and the museum had but \$1377.

The other one I have never heard of under its present name, but have a hazy recollection of it somewhat over a score of years ago. The collections are said to be valued at about \$30,000. The latest annual report makes no mention of it other than of its acquisition as a matter of past history (whence, I am afraid, it will never emerge). However, the report contains plans of the quarters at present occupied by the library and also of the building being erected. In the present quarters one large room in the back of the building, evidently shut off from the public, is marked "museum storage 2 stories." There is no indication on the plans of the new building that it will even be given storage room.

I know of two other collections, they cannot properly be called museums, run by libraries. I was, some seven or eight years ago, called into consultation regarding the starting of one of these, else I would not have known of its existence, and a librarian only the other

*Part of address before Wisconsin Library Association, La Crosse, Wis., Feb. 21, 1907.

day called my attention to the other. I cannot find that the first of these has spent a single dollar in the last recorded year, while for the other, out of a total expenditure of \$25,000, the museum benefited by the liberal allowance of \$9,761. For obvious reasons I have omitted any considerations of similar alliances in this state.

Also, it is rare that among museums of importance there is even the association of occupying the same building. The only two instances that I can recall in which this edificial relationship affects museums of the larger class are those of Milwaukee and the Carnegie Museum at Pittsburgh.

In the smoky city there is a combination of a group of educational features consisting of music hall, library, art gallery and natural history museum forming the Carnegie Institute, the common fund of which is apportioned to the several committees who separately administer the different members of this association of interests, and besides which the museum has various special funds.

In Milwaukee the museum and the library are founded under different laws, have separate appropriations, are administered under distinct boards of trustees, and unite only in a joint administration of the plant for lighting, heating, and ventilating the building; and even this slight relationship has been found so unsatisfactory that it has been decided to alternately, rather than jointly, administer this convenience.

There seems to be a rather general opinion that in Great Britain there is a closer association of libraries and museums, due probably to the "Free Public Libraries and Museums Act" of 1885 and its several amendments; but a reading of that act will show that the autonomy of neither of these is involved by the act; and detailed examination into the conditions pertaining at the cities where both have been established will seemingly show that in few instances, and then usually only in small places, have they been united. The only ones of these where the museum appears to be progressive we find that the curator of the museum is librarian and not the reverse.

It may perhaps be suggestive to reflect that the second greatest library in the world as well as the greatest natural history museum

forms, not the British Library, but the British Museum.

Aside from administrative reasons why the two should not be united are those of the building. An edifice particularly adapted for one is not properly adapted for the other. . . .

All museums of any importance maintain their own libraries, and even in such as the Carnegie and the Milwaukee museums, which occupy the same buildings with large public libraries, they still have to maintain their own technical collections of books. Ours in Milwaukee is very small, as yet consisting of but some 13,000 volumes, but it, like most other museum libraries, is much more elaborately cataloged than are, I believe, any of the popular libraries. Twenty, thirty or even more cards for a single volume are not uncommonly written, and so not only is the card catalog proportionally more helpful to the searcher after definite information than is one representing less careful analysis, but the librarian and the curators are apt to be more intimately familiar with the books than are the people in a public library. The books are specifically for the use of the working staff of the museum, but are gladly placed at the disposal of any one else, but only for use in the building. . . .

I have given you what I believe are the facts of the common administration of the two institutions, and these naturally lead us to the question, why cannot a museum be satisfactorily administered by a library?

This is an age of concentration, and in this country rather particularly do we notice a growing tendency to pool allied interests, so if it were practical to pool museums and libraries it would probably be attempted.

Let us see in what respects their activities and administrations differ; and in this comparison it will be best to limit the examination to general public libraries and to public museums of natural history, perhaps with something of an historical interest, arranged for popular education.

The librarian selects, purchases and catalogs his books and then presents his card catalog, finding list or open shelves to the public, that they may select such books as they wish. Sometimes he advises as to comparative values, but he does not attempt, except in

the children's room of some libraries, to teach the subject—the books do that for themselves. In most cases the librarian is passive, the public makes its selection of the books provided. In this, which I take to be the greater part of the work of most public libraries, the institution is certainly a factor in the education of the public, but it is no more an educational institution than would be a bookstore with its shelves thrown open to the public.

A museum for the public must be an aggressively educational institution or fail of justifying its right to exist. Its specimens must be selected, arranged and labelled with a definite purpose in view. Exhibits are frequently designed not to show the particular objects that compose them, but to illustrate some law of nature. Besides the silent preachment of carefully planned exhibit and well considered label most museums carry on regular lecture courses for the school children and for adults, and not infrequently go outside of their halls and carry the gospel among the Philistines. Their specimens are meaningless unless explained, and so their propaganda of education is that which calls for the closest study and most strenuous effort.

A library's influence depends largely on the books themselves. A museum's influence does not depend as much on its specimens as it does on how they are arranged and explained.

Prof. G. Brown Goode, for many years in charge of the U. S. National Museum, has said: "An efficient educational museum may be described as a collection of instructive labels, each illustrated by a well-selected specimen," and Sir William Henry Flower, a former director of the British Museum, Department of Natural History, expressed the idea in these words: "It is not the objects placed in a museum that constitute its value so much as the method in which they are displayed and the use made of them for the purpose of instruction."

Natural history museums must be administered and cared for by naturalists. Few librarians are such. Its workers should be investigators, that they may give to it something of the vitality of original thought, and further, it requires men of special training in museum methods.

Many of the workers in museums have resigned from professorships in colleges and universities and even from the presidency of these to take up broader work in museums. You cannot make a valuable museum man in a day. The work requires many years of preparation. We do not consider that one or two years of special study fits any one to take other than a very subordinate place in a museum. Most of our curators and directors have had a long preparation, and I fancy it is seldom that one is appointed to a curatorship who has not been an active student for at least ten or fifteen years.

The methods of the two institutions differ greatly; have hardly a similar feature.

It has been said that when two ride a horse one must ride behind. Museums under libraries are, I think without exception, starlings.

The statistics of this misalliance which I have reported should give you pause. They are not creditable to the libraries involved; they are the epitaphs of the unfortunate museums that have been the victims.

Among museum people it is accepted as almost axiomatic that no museum does well for the public that is controlled even by a scientific society. The making of popular educational museums is to a large extent a new science. The last decade has seen almost a revolution in their work and each year brings about marked changes.

In our search for the relations existing between museums and libraries we have come to a point that reminds me of that celebrated monograph on the snakes of Ireland that is reputed to have read: "There are no snakes in Ireland."

On every side I find dissimilarities, almost antitheses, that lead me to seriously question the possibility of any useful alliance between them. The few examples that I have cited of attempts made by libraries to create and maintain museums are failures, and these libraries emphasize their ignorance of the missions and possibilities of museums by an ill-placed pride in their abortive efforts.

I have thought long and carefully on what I am now going to say to you. If you are in a community that has not now a museum, but which is, or is likely soon to become, large and live enough to support one, then as you

would work for the advancement of your community keep your hands clean from the attempt to start one as a department of your library; for you will surely retard and perhaps kill the chances of your community having a useful one.

If you can offer a room or two and get some outside influence, a museum society or some group of people, whose chief interest is to build up a museum, to take hold of the project, then it will have some chance of developing until it is worth while for the municipality to finance it. If, however, you are in a community where there is no possibility of doing this, then perhaps it might be better for you to undertake the work than that there should be no museum at all, provided you go about it intelligently and in the right spirit.

There is one class of so-called museums in the making of which you might be very useful. I refer to the mere storage and preservation of objects worthy of being preserved.

In the normal course of events you are destined to antedate the educational museum, and you can be of assistance to it by preserving many specimens of value until your community evolves to the museum period. Your most useful and most natural field of activity along this line would be the preservation of historical and archaeological specimens. These are fast being lost and destroyed, and the museum to be developed in your community will call you blessed for all that you may do toward collecting such specimens. To do it you must ever keep in mind another dictum of Professor Goode, which is: "A museum specimen without a history is practically without value and had much better be destroyed than preserved." At first blush this sounds rather strong. Professor Goode, however, was a conservative, cultured man of very considerable scientific attainment and was not given to making ill-considered statements. The more that I have thought of this statement of his the more I am inclined to believe that it is literally correct. If so, then it follows that you had best not collect at all unless you secure and preserve with each specimen the data that should accompany it.

If you are dealing with an historical specimen you should have it thoroughly authenticated in its passage through various owner-

ships until it reaches you; you should record any facts of its past history that you may authoritatively obtain and that are not already a matter of record, and you should keep this record where it will not become lost or mislaid, and see to it that it is so connected that there can never be any possible question as to the data referring to this particular specimen. If slips of paper are put with or under or even pasted onto the specimen it is merely a matter of time and handling before they become lost or illegible. Your record should bear a number, not duplicated in your collection, and your specimen should bear the same number indelibly marked upon it.

If you are dealing with archaeological specimens you must collect and preserve the data regarding the provenience of each specimen. The locality, its position there, whether on the surface, in a grave or mound, by whom and when found, and from whom, when and by what means obtained by you, should also be recorded.

Separately or in connection with such a collection you might create a school museum for circulation in your city schools. A conference with the teachers would draw out what they thought they needed, and your most satisfactory way of obtaining this material would be to purchase it from the regular dealers. The teachers are presumably more conversant with the proper use of such material before their classes than you are, and so you would hardly find it advisable to attempt what most loaning museums do in the way of teaching the teachers. In Milwaukee we think this a very essential part of the work. If you are not satisfied with this, but must have a permanent exhibition, then I would emphasize the necessity of making your selection of specimens, arranging them and writing your labels with some definite, clear-cut aim in view, else you are almost certain to be that abomination rightfully characterized as a junk shop. Lay to heart the dictum that one of the important functions of a curator is to keep things out of a museum. If you feel that it is essential to accept and exhibit the heterogeneous mass of rubbish that your citizens will pour in on you, then you are doomed. If a museum is so large that its scheme embraces most everything, then most

anything can be safely accepted; but if you are to be restricted in size, then you must be restricted in scope in order to do something well. A blunderbuss is not nearly as effective as a rifle, although it may make a lot more noise. A small museum may be local in scope or it may disregard geographical limits and aim at broad principles. For example, you may have a collection of local birds or you may have a collection that will illustrate the peculiar adaptations of birds in general to their surroundings and their modes of life. Either would be effective and useful; but a collection of a hundred or more birds, a few local, the rest scattering from all parts of the world, not selected with any definite aim, but merely so many unrelated individual birds, has little to commend it. If you have a purposeful series then every irrelevant specimen that you allow to enter obscures its aim and weakens its effect.

In selecting your specimens you must continually ask yourself What is the use of this specimen? Why should I exhibit it here? And if you cannot justify its right to a position in the collection then you should rigorously exclude it.

People will come to you and say that they have a few curios that they wish to donate to the museum. They may use the word curios from ignorance of the import of the specimens, but if you decide that in your collection the specimens would really be curios, that they would not serve to illustrate some labels that you wish to write, then you should refuse them, courteously but firmly. An English curator has proposed posting a sign at the entrance to his museum that shall read, "No rubbish to be shot here."

Beware of acquiring the collector's spirit. If you are going to exhibit the Indian relics of your township or of the state, don't make it your aim to have only exceptionally fine specimens, notable for size, quality of workmanship, rare form or unusual material. While these are valuable in their way, they are less instructive than the common ones that give a fair idea of the average workmanship of the Indians. Unfinished specimens showing steps in their manufacture, though scorned by many collectors, are especially instructive.

Don't let people use your museum for per-

sonal vanity by placing in it, as monuments to themselves, ill-assorted combinations of heterogeneous specimens which are to be kept together in separate cases labelled the John Doe and the Richard Roe collections. You ought to be too much alive to tolerate any of the ear marks of a cemetery.

Cultivate in your own mind an abhorrence for "curios," and then recollect that anything from a seismograph to a hummingbird's egg is a curio to him who has no knowledge concerning it, and that it is your business to furnish the more important elements of this in a carefully worded, terse, well-printed label. Make it your ambition to have your labels read. Remember that they are the most important factor in your museum—that the specimens are there to illustrate the labels.

There will be a lot of pleasure-loving, idle-minded people who have been brought up on your fiction who will drift into the museum just to gawp about at what they, from their intellectual pinnacle, will be pleased to consider the curios that have been brought together to amuse the children. Make your labels so attractive and so sentient that after such a visitor has read one he will be induced to read others until he discovers that here he is among the real things of this world.

Mount your specimens as attractively to the eye as possible. A valuable collection may lose fifty per cent. of its usefulness if unsuitably displayed.

Have your cases suitable for the special objects to be shown, to the light that will fall on them where they are to stand, and to their surroundings. The interior and exterior color is important. Have as little wood as possible to obstruct the view of their contents. Have them dust proof and safely locked. The placement of the cases is important not only with relation to light, but also to space. Wall cases between windows are usually abominably lighted and exceedingly wasteful of space.

If, notwithstanding these considerations, you feel that you have a special call to establish some sort of a museum in connection with your library and wish to profit by the experiments and experience of others, the Public Museum of the City of Milwaukee will be pleased to render you all the assistance that it can in order that your efforts may be as effective as possible.

THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN *VERSUS* HUCKLEBERRY FINN: A BRIEF FOR THE DEFENCE

By E. L. PEARSON, *Library of the Military Information Division, Washington, D. C.*

ONE by one the children's departments of the public libraries are putting up the little dimity curtains of Extreme Respectability, while from behind them appears the Children's Librarian shaking a disapproving head at two old friends who stand outside. "No, no," she says, "Tom Sawyer, and you, you horrid Huckleberry Finn, you mustn't come here. All the boys and girls in here are good and pious; they have clean faces, they go to Sunday-school, and they love it, too. They say 'Yes, papa,' and 'Yes, mamma,' and they call their teacher 'Dearest teacher.' They never do anything bad or disrespectful. But you—you naughty, bad boys, your faces aren't washed, and your clothes are all covered with dirt. I do not believe either of you brushed his hair this morning, and Tom Sawyer, I saw you yawn in church last Sunday. As for you, Huckleberry, you haven't any shoes or stockings at all, and every one knows what your father is. Do you suppose I would let you in here with Rollo and Jonas, and all these other precious little dears? Now, both of you run right away as fast as you can, or I will call the policeman and have him attend to you!"

Together with a great many other men and boys I have witnessed this moral scene a number of times with a rising sense of sorrow and indignation. Not that I would breathe a word against the Children's Librarian. She has my deepest respect and admiration. She has been to a school where they study to be children's librarians—I never have. She has spent four or five years in children's rooms—I have only observed them (although with interest) from another part of the library. But one advantage she has not had. She has never been a boy. And I claim that possession of that qualification renders me able to judge fairly in the case of the Children's Librarian *versus* Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn.

At first I have thought that the case need not be argued nor judged. I have felt like saying, "Tom and Huck, you wouldn't like it if you went in there. Their boys and girls are a set of little goody-goodies. There isn't one of them that would have rescued Becky from

the cave as you did, Tom, nor one that would have risked his body and soul for Jim, as Huckleberry did. There is only one real boy in there—Tom Bailey of Rivermouth, and they will find out about him soon, and how he scared his townfolk with a battery of guns, and then they'll put him out, for fear other boys will catch that habit. I know you, Tom and Huck, and so do lots of others, and I'd rather spend an hour on your raft than listen to that Jonas any day. There are some fellows we can get to come along with us. Tom Bailey, of course, and his Centipede Club, and a boy named Davy who has a Goblin with him—we'll get them. Then there's a boy from India called Kim, and two more from the same country—British drummer boys named Jakin and Lew—that lady wouldn't like them, either, because they swear and fight, but they amount to something, anyhow. If we want to talk with any girls, there's that Alice—she's English and kind of prim, but she's got some awfully funny friends. She'll do on rainy days, when the raft is up at the bank. Now, come on, and leave the lady and her little darlings by themselves. All the boys and plenty of men will come with us, and the mother's pets can go inside and play with Little Lord Fauntleroy."

At first, as I have said, this has seemed the only thing for a friend of Huckleberry and Tom to say. But the more one considers, the more one becomes convinced that Tom and Huck are urgently needed inside. There has been a great increase in boys' books during the last twenty years, but the condition of the class as a whole remains about the same. It is generally agreed that the English Tom—Tom Brown—is nearly incomprehensible to American boys. Harvey Cheyne of "Captains courageous" is an extreme and detestable type to begin with, and his reformation is a trifle obvious and "preachy." None need inveigh against "Stalky and Co."—it never became popular with boys. As for the "Jungle books," if they are, as some believe, the best of Mr. Kipling's work, they are certainly the most conscious, and appeal, I believe, more to grown-ups than to boys. Of Henty's interna-

tional gallery of wax-works, it must be admitted that they are in demand, but the faint praise accorded them in the "A. L. A. catalog" seems a just estimate of their worth. Mr. Barbour's athletic stories are well liked, but they appear machine-made. Fairy tales are out of the province of my discussion, as are juvenile historical, biographical, or "scientific" works. In the class of fiction for boys there seems to be little left, except Alger, Castlemon, Optic and Company, and many of their works are barred out by the same authorities who exclude Tom and Huckleberry.

Now, just as certain novels for adults stand head and shoulders above the rest because their authors dared to depict men and women as they are, these two books of Mark Twain, almost alone among boys' books, deserve the appellation "great;" because they present real boys. Not Henty's wooden heroes, nor golden-curled, lace-collared Fauntleroy's; but real boys, with all of boys' absurd superstitions, hunger for romance and adventure, and disregard for smug respectability. Their adventures are such as to compel attention and interest. Professor Brander Matthews well says that since Crusoe discovered the footprint there has been scarcely an incident in literature to match the moment when Tom Sawyer, lost in the cave, sees the hand of his enemy, Injun Joe. William Morris used to read "Huckleberry Finn" and declare it America's chief contribution to art. Professor Barrett Wendell, in his "Literary history of America," makes a similar claim, while Stevenson's praise of the book is known to any one who has read his letters.* But what do these scholars and literary men amount to beside the thousands of men and boys who have met with no better fellows in all the land of story-books than Tom and Huck, and who now see their old friends turned out of some library every year, and sent to herd with such cheap and vapid creatures as Bowery Billy, the Boy Detective!

* As I revise this, there appears in the *North American Review* an article on Mark Twain by Professor Phelps, of Yale. Professor Phelps thinks that "Huckleberry Finn" can be fully appreciated only by adults—children devour it, but do not digest it, he says. This is true only of the great books—"Alice in Wonderland," "Gulliver's travels," and "Pilgrim's progress," for example. Of course the last two were not written for children at all.

E. L. P.

"But," states the Children's Librarian, "I know the books are interesting and all that, but it only makes them the more pernicious. They glorify mischief. When Huckleberry Finn appears on the scene, what does he have with him? A dead cat! Is that the sort of thing we want to teach our boys to do? Why, somewhere or other, a library had these books, and the boys formed a Tom Sawyer Club, and they broke some windows, and did something else, I don't know what. The books are irreverent toward sacred things and Sunday-schools, and oh, they are utterly bad, and I won't have them in the children's room!"

Against this it can only be urged that literature is nothing but a record of people doing the things they should not do; that condemnation of it for this reason alone is usually regarded among enlightened persons as bigotry; and that boys will have to be reared in cloisters if they are never to commit mischief. "Of course they will be mischievous," she replies, "but we mustn't furnish them with the impulse." Are you sure that these books do furnish the impulse, madam? Do not the stories about the boys made bad by them sound a bit thin? Now and then the newspapers tell of some young man who winds up a career of dissipation by murdering his whole family. As he stands upon the gallows he attributes his downfall to the day when some one tempted him to smoke a cigarette or drink a glass of beer. His own evil soul he absolves from blame, and puts it all upon that universal scapegoat, the cigarette. The sin he did, he would have done without the aid of cigarettes, and the mischief that boys commit, would be committed if "Tom Sawyer" and "Huckleberry Finn" had never been written.

I am appealing, with little hope, to a court whose decision is already rendered. The word has gone forth that these two books are to be condemned. Yet almost any hundred which the children's departments contain could be better spared. For a large class of boys there are fathers and uncles and big brothers who will see to it that they do not miss that trip down the Mississippi, that they too watch with beating hearts while Injun Joe and his pal unearth the buried treasure in the haunted house, that they know that glorious pair, the King and the Duke, and that they see the

Shepherdsons and the Grangerfords and their feud. These grown men would as soon dry up the swimming pools in summer, or scatter ashes on the coasting hills in winter, as to deny their boys what they themselves so loved twenty or thirty years ago.

But there is another class of boys whose relatives cannot provide any books. The public library is supposed to minister to these as well as to the others. Whether these know Tom and Huckleberry often rests with a lady who is horrified by a dead cat, and shocked at Tom's lack of Scriptural knowledge. If these ladies could be prevailed to leave the case to their fathers or uncles or brothers there might be a chance for the poorer boys as well.

The words of my friend Frank Marshall bear on this subject. He was a director of his town library when they elected Miss Timmins to succeed old Mr. Wheaton, who had presided over the library for thirty years. Marshall's term of office, as director, expired soon after, but he told me that Miss Timmins promised well. "She is clearing things up," he wrote me, "and I am glad you advised us to send for her. It seems that she wants to open a room for kids, and they have told her to go ahead. The Junior and Bob are tickled, for old Wheaton used to drive them out sometimes, and he never was very pleasant to me when I went down to get books for them."

I went over to see Marshall last week, and I gathered that Miss Timmins had carried her clearing-up process too far to suit him. "We thought we were getting a dove," he said, "but we were fooled. It turns out that they give them some kind of sailing directions at that school, and one of the first articles is, into the fire with Mark Twain. Why, there was a dear old copy of 'Huckleberry Finn'—I believe it was the same one I used to read—and that young woman fell on it like a monk of the Inquisition, and burned it up. Bob had never read it, and when he went after it she told him that it was not a nice book at all. He told her I had advised him to read it, but that didn't make any difference. She gave him a thing called 'Little brothers in feathers and fuzz,' or some such name, and told him to read that. He hasn't opened it. I'd lick him if he did. Simpkin over here—you know what sort he is—chairman of the library

board now; he succeeded me. He says the town has been reading too much fiction, and that Miss Timmins has already reduced the percentage of it by several points. I asked him whether he thought the 'Little brothers' were a good substitute. He said they had ordered a good many books on nature. I tried to get out of him what was the net gain to the town if boys took home books they never read, but he is apparently satisfied if the figures make us out as suddenly increased in intellect by twenty per cent. I think it helps Miss Timmins along with the other librarians, too. You ought to know about that—does it?"

Marshall's sister came into the room before I could answer. She is president of the Twenty Minute Culture Club, of which it appears Miss Timmins is secretary. Miss Marshall said, "Frank, I found the boys reading 'Tom Sawyer' and 'Huckleberry Finn'—they said you got the books for them." "Quite so; I brought them out from town this afternoon." "Why, Frank, don't you know Miss Timmins has banished them from the library? They are just as vulgar as they can be. Miss Timmins says that no children's library will have them now. She says that the famous library at—" "Emily," interrupted her brother, "Miss Timmins is in supreme command down in the curious looking room she has fixed up there. But she isn't here. I think she knows how to make the neatest letters with a pen I ever saw, and she is very sweet and kind with all those small children. I hear she tells them stories, which is certainly a change from old Wheaton, who used to get after them with a cane. But she doesn't understand boys. How could she? My opinion on their books is better than hers. When she sets herself up as an authority on that subject, she is meddling just as much as I should be if I tried to teach little girls how to dress dolls. As for you, Emily, I am very fond of you, but at times I suspect there is an infusion of buttermilk or weak tea in your blood. Your only writer is Jane Austen, or, when you feel wild and desperate, Clara Louise Burnham. No wonder you are shocked at men's books. I remember you find Kipling too strong for your taste. Don't worry the boys, Emily. I didn't go to the bad on Mark Twain, and I think they'll pull through."

PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF THE UNITED STATES

Henry James in "The American scene," p. 374-375. (Harper, 1907)

THE public libraries of the United States are, like the universities, a challenge to fond fancy; by which I mean that, if taken together, they bathe the scene with a strange hard light of their own, the individual institution may often affect the strained pilgrim as a blessedly restful perch. It constitutes, in its degree, wherever met, a more explicit plea for the amenities, or at least a fuller exhibition of them, than the place is otherwise likely to contain; and I remember comparing them, inwardly, after periods of stress and dearth, after long, vacant stretches, to the mastheads on which spent birds sometimes light in the expanses of ocean. Their function for the student of manners is by no means exhausted with that attribute—they project, through the use made of them, so interesting sidelights; but it is by that especial restorative, that almost romantic character I have just glanced at, that I found myself most solicited. It is to the inordinate value, in the picture, of the non-commercial, non-industrial, non-financial note that they owe their rich relief; being, with the universities, as one never wearied of noting, charged with the whole expression of that part of the national energy that is not calculable in terms of mere arithmetic. They appeared to express it, at times, I admit, the strange national energy, in terms of mere subjection to the spell of the last "seller"—the new novel, epidemically swift, the ubiquity of which so mirrors the great continental conditions of unity, equality and prosperity; but this view itself was compatible with one's sense of their practical bid for the effect of distinction. There are a hundred applications of the idea of civilization which, in a given place, outside its library, would be all wrong, if conceivably attempted, and yet that immediately become right, incur in fact the highest sanction, on passing that threshold. They often more or less fail of course, they sometimes completely fail, to assert themselves even within the precinct; but one at least feels that the precinct attends on them, waits and confessedly yearns for them, consents indeed to be a precinct only on the understanding that they shall not be forever delayed. I wondered, everywhere, under stress of this perception, at the general associations of the word that best describes them and that remains so quaintly and admirably their word even when their supreme right in it is most vulgarly and loudly disputed. They are the rich presences, even in the "rich" places, among the sky-scrapers, the newspaper offices, the highly rented pews and the billionaires, and they assert, with a blest imperturbable serenity, not only that everything would be poor without them, but that even with them

much is as yet deplorably poor. They in fact so inexorably establish this truth that when they are in question they leave little to choose, I think, roundabout them, between the seats of wealth and the seats of comparative penury; they are intrinsically so much more interesting than either.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY OWES TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY*

FULFILLING its functions, as the depository of the newest knowledge of the day and the hoarded wisdom of the long past, the library holds that knowledge and wisdom in trust for civilization. This trust, we may now know, is a two-fold one—its first object, completion; its second, dissemination.

The first of these functions is the old and familiar one, as old as civilization itself. Since man learned the art of etching his thoughts in fixed symbols, to be better understood by his fellows, or that he might be remembered by his successors, these treasures of the mind have existed. The most ancient records tell of them, and our latest discoveries repeat their story. Painted upon stone and carved in granite, the remains of ancient libraries are exhumed from the tombs of kings that built the pyramids, in the days when the mystic cry of Memnon first awoke the dawn over Egypt.

Through the ages since, collections of writings have preserved this function, leading along the stream of civilization, now a mere trickle, and again increasing to a flood and watering the whole earth. Of all man's works that alone to which he seems able to impart immortality is the book he has written. As into his nostrils was breathed the breath of life, so man has breathed his own soul into the book.

The second function of the library, the dissemination of knowledge, is no less indispensable. It is part and parcel of the wonderful demand for free education. It is no longer the aim of the library to be only a conservator of materials; it must be a positive force working with enthusiastic activity to enlighten and uplift the race.

The public library of to-day is in a beautiful and convenient building, equipped with reading rooms, lecture and class rooms, art gallery and assembly rooms for the meetings of learned societies. It is sought to make it a means of public comfort, as well as public education, and so to attract people as yet little accustomed to the ministry of books. There is no longer doubt that it can be made a center of such influence as shall make its attractions linger in the heart, drawing more strongly than almost any other agency of our civilization.

It should be the first resort for one out of

* Part of address at dedication of Carnegie building, Seattle (Wash.) Public Library, Dec. 19, 1906.

employment. It may become, without any loss to his self-respect, the poor man's club. That city would be richly repaid in peace and good order which should succeed in making these places such centers of sweetness and light as should draw always toward them its poor and its unemployed for counsel and encouragement. As Mr. Carnegie has said, there is no possible danger of injuring people by "placing within their reach the means of knowledge, because these only yield their fruit to such as cultivate them by their own exertions."

How much this equalizing of opportunity means to the state may be seen from the statistical fact that nine-tenths of the children, even in this favored land, leave school without finishing the common grades; only one in four that enter the high school completes the course; and barely one per cent. is graduated from all our colleges and universities.

Democracy as a theory of government has at last come to stay, we hope, in the earth; and America is the land where its problems must be worked out. Only God knows what problems there are before us. But this we do know, that the thoughts of the people to-day will be their deeds to-morrow.

We know also that without the power to make comparison and to understand cause and effect, without a knowledge of history, masses of men will be as clay in the hands of political bosses and plutocrats. On the other hand, without the broadening of outlook and the humanizing of feeling that come from acquaintance with the best literature, the poor and unhappy must become dangerous whenever they become conscious of brute strength and determined to rely upon it.

But if the argument for the support of the free library be put upon the broad plane of the safety of the state, there is a still broader plane upon which to place it—that of the welfare and happiness of the individual, of whom, by whom and for whom, the state exists.

The time has come when the fullest opportunity of the individual to know is conceded, not because society needs protection from his ignorance, but because it is his right. This "higher law" in human evolution bids each individual begin where all his predecessors left off and urges him forward by the counsels of perfection. Moreover, the full realization of our ideals demands that every soul shall have as a heritage the moral and spiritual riches of past human achievement.

As another has put it, the end of education is, first, to enable a man to earn a living, and then, to make life worth living. Measured by this two-fold object, our institution takes highest rank. The common school is the foundation of education, but it is only a foundation. Upon it the high school, college, university and technical school, the periodical press, the pulpit, platform and

stage, all go to build the superstructure. Crowning all, binding all together as one, composed of the substance and partaking the strength of all, stands the keystone, the free public library.

On the practical side, it is the school, free alike to rich and poor, which keeps while life lasts, and whose courses extend from kindergarten to university. On the side of the higher ideals we find it containing an inexhaustible wealth of human kindness, of inspiration and hope.

Above all else the work of the library begins by reaching out and touching the lives of the young. If you teach the child to read but do not teach him *what* to read nor help him form a good taste in the selection of his reading, you have furnished him with edged tools which may in his hands become weapons turned against his neighbor or against his own life. The dime novel libraries and the gaily-painted vulgarity of the Sunday newspaper were never so much in evidence as they are to-day and perhaps never quite so noxious in their effect upon the heart and imagination of the future citizen, husband and father. The weak and silly story paper, the rapid and impossible romance pour in a flood from the roaring presses; and it is from these that our girls are to get their views of life.

By co-operative work with the public schools, making each schoolroom a branch library, it is possible to reach every child that is born, even of the poorest parents, and to put into his hands the books that, with the revelation of new truth, will give a significance to life hitherto undreamed of, or with the glowing touch of imagination will transfigure his poor surroundings, and, as it were, create the world for him anew. This work cannot begin too early. Luther Burbank says: "If we hope for any improvement of the human race we must begin with the child, as the child responds more readily to environments than any other creature in existence."

It is the mission of the public library to bring to these young lives the ripened fruit of the love and tenderness which humanity has in all ages borne towards childhood; to fill these ingenuous hearts with such visions of truth and beauty that there shall be no room left for whatsoever defileth or maketh a lie. Our children have tasted of the tree of knowledge; it lies in our power to enable them to grasp the fruit of life; and one generation of fully redeemed childhood would show us a redeemed world.

The library deserves our sympathy then and our support because it may be of such benefit to those who need it most—the teacher of the untaught, the refuge of the friendless, a dispenser of the "medicine of the soul" to those who have found no physician for their complaints.

To such the library must come with its

supreme mission of equalizing opportunity. It must try to seek them out and bring them to itself, or go where they are if need be. It may not, although sometimes even our churches do so, withdraw itself to more fashionable and exclusive locations. On the contrary, it must establish branches wherever needed, so that the poor may use its treasures without paying an impossible tax in time and carfare. It must win the people to an appreciation of its riches and their great privileges.

I have thus briefly supported the claims of this institution upon the citizens and taxpayers of the city. I have attempted to show that it is a public necessity, its mission the greatest of all altruisms, and therefore its existence interwoven with your destiny. We know that knowledge is power, faith and love omnipotent and beauty a joy forever; and we have here stored up all these dynamics of the universe.

CHARLES WESLEY SMITH,
Librarian Seattle Public Library

CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS

A. L. A. Committee on Bookbuying, Bulletin 33, April

It is seldom necessary or advisable for small libraries to purchase subscription books from agents. Books are sold in this way generally for one of two reasons: (1) Their great expense, (2) Their inferiority. Expensive subscription books may be of great value; but these are seldom offered to the small library with the exception of large works of reference (cyclopedias, etc.), issued by responsible firms. It is not often necessary to buy these of agents; they may almost always be picked up of second-hand dealers, in perfect condition, at half price or less. Many who do not really want them are prevailed upon to purchase by the persuasive agent and hasten to "unload" at a loss. This is the library's opportunity. The subscription books classed above as "inferior" include (a) Collective biographies made to sell to those whose portraits or sketches are included. (Sometimes even these books may be locally valuable); (b) Standard or good works showily bound and offered as editions de luxe; (c) Complete books, available in other forms, combined in various ways into "sets" with introductions by well-known writers or with the name of some noted man as editor; (d) Cheap reprints of old works of reference falsely said to be "revised" or "brought down to date;" (e) Worthless books of kinds too numerous to mention, sold through agents in the confidence that a considerable proportion of the public is gullible.

Small libraries may well make it a rule to buy nothing through subscription agents. This may occasionally deprive the librarian of a chance to see something of value. At any rate: (1) Agree to buy nothing while in the

agent's presence; (2) Sign no agreement that you do not thoroughly understand; (3) Judge of no work by a few "specimen pages;" (4) If there is no hurry try the second-hand dealers first.

Publishers of reference works generally cut the plates every year or so to insert new matter. This may be of little relative importance. Agents urge the purchase of the "new editions," and the old ones (in such cases nearly as good) are thrown on the second-hand market at astonishingly low prices. The difference between an "edition" of 1907 and one of 1897, at one-third the former's price, may be merely a little information on radium and wireless telegraphy, that you may cover as well with magazine articles. On the other hand, a new edition may be a comprehensive revision making the older ones worthless. But do not trust the agent's representations. Find out for yourself.

THE JAMES V. BROWN LIBRARY, WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

THE James V. Brown Library of Williamsport, Pa., was formally opened on June 17. The library is a gift "to the people of Williamsport and vicinity" by the late James Vanduzee Brown, who by his will left a plot of ground 75 x 150 situated in the heart of the city, \$150,000 for a building, \$10,000 for books, and an endowment of \$10,000 a year for library purposes. He was a native of Hartford, Washington County, N. Y., where he received only a common school education, and where he, as a young man, worked at the printing trade. On attaining his majority, he entered mercantile life, and in 1850, having by that time become a resident of Williamsport, engaged in the lumber business, later becoming identified with the water company in that city, where he died Dec. 8, 1904.

The building is a fine example of the severe French Renaissance, designed by Edgar V. Seeler, of Philadelphia, and is built of white Pennsylvania marble. The wide entrance steps are flanked at their summit by columns 22 feet high, above and between which, in a niche, is a bust of the donor. Upon tablets inserted above the large front and side windows are cut names of men famous in the arts and sciences.

The main reading room, 54 x 52, reached through a tiled vestibule, on one side of which is the trustees' room, is a modified octagonal, attached to the rear side of which is a square extension approximately 16 x 16, and is lighted by stained glass windows and dome. The walls and pillars are a rich mottled green, which becomes lighter on the ceiling as it arches towards the dome, and gains in richness from the contrast of the dull gold capitals and the deep red of the mahogany bookcases and furniture. The electroliers suspended from the ceiling by massive chains are

of bronze, as are also the chains and the reading lamps on the tables, the latter having dark green shades.

In one side of the front wall a door opens into the reference room, which occupies a wing of the building that corresponds to that in which the trustees' room is situated. This room will accommodate between 3000 and 4000 volumes. At the rear, doors leading from the square extension give access on opposite sides of the building to the librarian's and cataloging rooms, and just beyond, between bookcases and surmounted by mahogany grilles, an archway opens to the stack room, which has a capacity of 50,000 volumes. In the basement there are rooms devoted to bound copies of newspapers and to books dealing exclusively with Pennsylvania history; an auditorium with a seating capacity of slightly over 200, a janitor's office, the heating plant, boiler room, storage room, etc.

On the second floor there are four rooms, two in front and two behind the dome. Those at the back are small and are used, respectively, for the staff room, fitted with lockers, sink, gas stove, etc., and the stock room, fitted with closets, shelving, etc. In the front are the children's room and the art gallery, both with unbroken wall spaces and lighted by central skylights. The art gallery is 16 x 23, and is filled with pictures that were the property of Mr. Brown during his lifetime. The oil colors include the original of "The stump speech," by J. G. Brown, and copies of two of the Italian madonnas and Paul Potter's "Bull," the water colors being chiefly landscapes of Greece and Rome.

The children's room is 23 x 36, with low shelving. At one end is a large colonial fireplace, flanked by settles, and above the bookcases, forming a frieze, are large Copley prints of Abbey's "Holy grail," severely framed, while in furtherance of the Arthurian atmosphere thus obtained the central piece of furniture is a round table eight feet in diameter, made of the regular height for adults, so as to give it greater prominence than the four other tables which are slightly lower. All the furniture and the shelving in the room is of mahogany. The line of the shelving on one of the side walls is broken to admit of a low shelf for special books, on each side of which are bulletin boards 3 x 5.

When opened the library had a little over 12,000 volumes on its shelves, of which 1300 were in the reference room, 1600 in the children's room, and 600 in the Pennsylvania room, the balance being upon open shelves in the main room. The library also possesses some thousands of pamphlets and numerous valuable manuscripts relating to the early history of Lycoming county.

The opening exercises were simple. Prayer was offered by Bishop Darlington, of Harrisburg; an address on "The library, its resources and ideals," was read by Mr. J. Artley Beeber,

one of the trustees; and a eulogy on Mr. Brown was delivered by Mr. C. LaRue Munson, chairman of the library committee. Short speeches were made by Mr. Joseph G. Rosengarten, president of the Free Library of Philadelphia; Mr. John Thomson, librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia; Mr. Thomas L. Montgomery, state librarian; Dr. Edward J. Nolan, librarian of the Academy of Natural Sciences, and by the librarian, after which the library was declared "open forever to the public" by the president, Mr. Orange S. Brown. Mr. O. R. Howard Thomson is the librarian, having resigned his position as librarian-in-charge of the Wagner Institute Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia last September, at which time he assumed his new duties at Williamsport.

LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

THE fourth annual meeting of the League of Library Commissions was held at the Battery Park Hotel, Asheville, N. C., May 24-27, 1907.

The first session was called to order May 24 at 8.15 p.m., by the president of the League, Miss Alice S. Tyler. There were in attendance not only representatives of 14 library commissions, but a large audience interested in the various phases of library extension. The president spoke a few words of appreciation of the work of Miss Clara F. Baldwin, secretary of the League and compiler of the Year-book, who was not present because of a trip abroad, and then appointed Mrs. Karen M. Jacobson, Minnesota, to act as secretary.

As Mr. Asa Wynkoop, New York, was not present, his paper, which was first on the printed program, was postponed.

Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, then gave a paper on "Some unsolved problems of library commissions," which was stimulating and suggestive and aroused animated discussion. In the discussion, Miss Charlotte Templeton, Nebraska, gave by request an account of the correspondence course of the Nebraska Library Commission; Miss Hewins, Connecticut, spoke of the connection between the women's clubs and the commission, and also of the school work; and Mr. Hadley, Indiana, came to the defence of the commission bulletin, not only as a means of communication between the commission and its libraries throughout the state, but also as an organ of local interest which the library periodicals could not furnish.

Mr. Bliss, Pennsylvania, said he believed that in time state commissions will be done away with and the work continued under the state libraries, and this will come to pass when the state libraries are no longer political. He urged more co-operation among commissions and not so much independent work by the different states along the same lines. There should be co-operation in publications, in the

A. L. A. Booklist, and in the matter of summer schools. He favored the commission bulletin, but thought it would be better to omit the longer articles. Mr. Legler spoke emphatically regarding Mr. Bliss' suggestions and particularly as to the *A. L. A. Booklist*. A large corps of readers report each month not only from commissions and the prominent libraries of the country, but the children's books are read by children's librarians, and technical and scientific books are put into the hands of experts in their respective departments. Miss Price, Pennsylvania, suggested that the notes in the *A. L. A. Booklist* be signed. This would mean much in selecting a book without reading it, if recommended over a signature which is recognized. Mr. Legler stated that for the very reason that the work is co-operative the annotations cannot be signed, for a title is not put in the *Booklist* unless it is recommended by several of the corps of readers. Then, too, the *Booklist* belongs to all sections of the country, and though signatures have a known value in the home locality, they would mean nothing to other localities. The personality must be universally known to give weight to a signature.

The report of the committee on state examinations and certificates for librarians was given by Mr. Chalmers Hadley, of Indiana, and Mr. C. B. Galbreath, of Ohio, in the absence of Miss Baldwin, chairman. Mr. Hadley stated the pros and cons of the question, and Mr. Galbreath followed with definite suggestions as to examinations and grading, and with the draft of a bill for the appointment of a state board of library examiners.

Miss Plummer, director of Pratt Institute Library School, led in the discussion, and said in part that "the library schools are in favor of anything that will add to general library efficiency. If the provision of satisfactory tests and the recommendation in a formal way of experienced candidates in actual work in libraries are going to contribute to this efficiency it will mean a gain for the library schools as well as for the libraries. As to who is to prescribe the tests for the experienced librarian, it would seem to me best that the League of Library Commissions should do this, preserving a certain uniformity in all the states and allowing each commission to do its own examining and marking. As to what the tests should consist of, it would seem fair to confine them to three things: First, the candidate's general education; second, his technical and administrative knowledge; third, the general character and reputation of the candidate's work. As to the credentials furnished, they should specify the nature and duration of the candidate's library experience and the kind of position he or she is fitted for. The tests being the same, the markings should be sufficiently equal in the various states for the credentials of one state to pass in any other state belonging to the League."

The president named as a nominating committee Mr. Legler, Miss Askew, Miss Hoagland.

The president welcomed Alabama to the League of Commissions and introduced its representative, Dr. Thomas W. Owen, who stated that although their department bore the title Archives and History, Division of Library Extension, their work was in every sense that of a commission. The president spoke of the new commission in North Dakota which had been created during the recent legislative year, and Mr. Purd B. Wright told of the new library commission law of Missouri and hoped to see that state in the League before another year.

Because of the interest manifested, the meeting adjourned to meet in extra session Saturday evening, May 25, at 8.30.

At the second session Mr. John Pendleton Kennedy, Virginia, having been called away, his paper on "The librarian as a factor in securing library appropriations," was read by Mr. Henry E. Legler, Wisconsin.

In discussing this paper Miss Ahern spoke of the responsibility of a librarian to educate the community to an understanding of what a librarian's salary should justly be. The local librarian should have much to do in securing an adequate appropriation. A librarian often is responsible for a false economy because she allows herself to "work for love." Librarians should awake to the business side of their work and take a broad view of the situation. The librarian who "thinks in hundreds" (dollars, not cents) appeals to the business men on the board who are themselves accustomed to this method.

Mr. Hadley spoke of the mistake commissions make in their delay in stating their problem to legislators till too late. Efforts should be made to acquaint them with the library conditions in the state while they are in their respective communities before they meet in legislative session. The same is true of the city library in its relation to the city fathers.

Miss Prentiss, California, spoke of the influence of the League of California Municipalities, in which every department that belongs to the city is represented and discussed. They expect to have a library section of that League to emphasize the fact that the library belongs to the city.

The paper of Mr. Asa Wynkoop, New York, on "Where should state aid end and local responsibility begin in library extension work?" was read by Mr. James I. Wyer, Jr., and its practical suggestions brought forth much discussion.

Miss Stearns, Wisconsin, said that the community should take the initiative, but that the commissions should create the desire. The West is not ready for compulsory libraries, but the community works on its own initiative. In the selection of books we believe in

advising but not buying for libraries. Organizing should be done through instruction and personal visits. We do not believe in direct state aid, but aiding by travelling libraries.

Miss Isom, Oregon, spoke of the success that had been attained in the first two years of the Oregon commission, of their increased appropriation and of the methods of sending out material to the granges; she paid a deserved tribute to Miss Marvin's work.

Mr. Bliss asked the opinion of the commission workers as to whether commissions should act as purchasing agents. Miss Askew, New Jersey, spoke in defence of this, showing how money had been saved for the small libraries by her personal visits to New York second-hand dealers. Miss Hewins told of Connecticut's plan as purchasing agent. Mr. Legler explained for Wisconsin that they quote prices only on subscription books and expensive sets which they find offered at reduced prices, thus saving money for the small library. Miss Price, Pennsylvania, had also bought books at second-hand stores for local libraries. An expression of opinion by vote showed a sentiment unfavorable to the commission acting as a purchasing agent.

The third session had been set for the afternoon of May 27, but owing to the meeting of the Children's Librarians' Section at this hour it was decided to postpone the papers for an adjourned session in the evening. At this session Miss Hazeltine, chairman, gave the report of the publication committee, which was accepted and its provisions adopted. Miss Kelso, New York, presented the League with a gavel of rhododendron root, as a souvenir of Asheville, and the president expressed on behalf of the League appreciation of the gift.

The president then called upon Mrs. Percival Sneed, of Atlanta, for a word from the Georgia Library Commission. She gave an encouraging report of the progress made without any state appropriation.

Mr. Legler reported that in regard to a postal rate, he had tried to have commission bulletins considered as second class matter. The local postmaster had referred the matter to Washington and it had been refused. It was suggested that a committee be appointed to take the matter up tactfully with the Post-office Department at Washington with the view of getting pound rates, the committee to act at such time as seems best. Appointment deferred.

Mr. Bliss, Pennsylvania, called the attention of the League to the fact that certain library terms are in use with different meanings in various parts of the country, so that in publishing statistics the terms are often puzzling. Mr. Hadley suggested that a dictionary of terms be included in the Year-book. Mr. Bliss moved that the two terms, "traveling library" and "library station" be referred to the publication committee for definition.

The treasurer's report was read by the secretary, showing all bills paid and a balance on hand of \$28.70.

The nominating committee reported as follows: president, Mr. Chalmers Hadley, Indiana; 1st vice-president, Miss Caroline M. Hewins, Connecticut; 2d vice-president, Dr. Thomas M. Owen, Alabama; secretary, Miss Clara F. Baldwin, Minnesota; treasurer, Miss Sarah B. Askew, New Jersey. On motion, the secretary was instructed to cast the ballot for the new officers. Carried.

The fourth session was held on Monday evening, at 8.30, Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, Wisconsin, presiding.

The first paper presented was "The library budget," by Mr. Henry E. Legler, Wisconsin. The chief discussion was in regard to librarians' salary, Mr. Legler stating that it should be on the basis with that of the high school teacher in the community. He asserted that the salary should be the first item considered by the council, then additional assistance, books, fuel, light, janitor. The library budget should be carefully estimated and that sum asked for; the sum should not be left to be suggested by the council.

Mr. Bliss, of Pennsylvania, said he was opposed to a fixed proportion for the librarian's salary. One ought to consider of what value a library is to the community, therefore what a librarian is worth, and not what some particular one is worth. The library should have the same footing as the school, no matter what the proportion of salary. With the right librarian, books and other necessities will come.

Mr. Hadley, Indiana, thought that one of the serious problems of the budget is the maintenance of too expensive buildings. The limit of taxation for years to come has been reached. The interiors are frequently not adapted to their purpose. If the buildings were simpler, there would be more money for salaries.

Miss Kelso, New York, asked if the commissions had ever addressed a communication to Mr. Carnegie as to the difficulty of the maintenance of the libraries, thinking it likely that he could remedy the difficulty.

Mr. Brett, of Cleveland, agreed with Mr. Legler that 10 per cent. is not enough because the demands of the community are too great—it is not that the building is too large. The conclusion that gifts should be lessened is a mistake. Take what you can get.

Mr. Legler put Miss Kelso's suggestion into the form of a motion that the commissions present the difficulty to Mr. Carnegie. An amendment was made that the executive board of the League communicate with Mr. Carnegie as to the administration of libraries. Carried.

The Round Table of Summer School Problems was opened by Miss Hazeltine with a few appropriate remarks. Miss Sarah B.

Askew, of New Jersey, presented the subject of "Conditions of admission to summer library schools."

Miss Julia E. Elliott, Wisconsin, discussed the topic "Subjects for the course and time required."

"Equipment for practice work" was presented by Miss Anna R. Phelps, of Indiana, and this was followed by Miss Harriet E. Howe, who presented both sides of the question of "Final examinations."

Mrs. Karen M. Jacobson, Minnesota, discussed the final topic, "Certificate in the summer school." Animated discussion had followed the presentation of most of these topics, but as the hour was growing very late the discussion of the last two was waived. Mr. Legler moved that a representative committee of summer school interests be appointed as suggested in Mrs. Jacobson's paper, to decide whether it would be wise for the League to have a uniform certificate that might be adopted by commission and other summer schools, and that such a committee be composed of one from every school represented in the meeting. Representatives from 10 states met Tuesday evening for further discussion, and it was decided that a committee be appointed to consider uniform certificates for summer schools and report to the director of each summer school not later than the mid-winter meeting of the League. Adjourned.

KAREN M. JACOBSON, *Acting Secretary.*

State Library Commissions

INDIANA PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION: Chalmers Hadley, secretary, State House, Indianapolis.

The fourth biennial report of the commission for the period Nov. 1, 1904, to Oct. 31, 1906, appears as a substantial volume of 120 pages, with numerous illustrations, plans and charts. It is a most interesting record of effective work, and should be suggestive outside its own state field, while it marks also the retirement of Miss Merica Hoagland from the post of secretary and state organizer she had so efficiently filled since the creation of the commission. During the two years covered by the report, 17 library buildings have been erected in the state, and the number of library school graduates in Indiana libraries has been increased from eight to 19. There are 169 travelling libraries in operation, containing 5807 v., which have had an estimated circulation of 25,000. Since 1901 the commission has given advice concerning the organization, reorganization and administration of 73 libraries, and it has carried on a constant campaign of enlightenment through visits, publications, instruction, and personal work. The summer school for librarians begun in 1902 is fully reported on, as is the field and influence of the travelling libraries. There are practical

suggestions for the organization of local public libraries, and an account of the beginning made in introducing library instruction into normal schools, later discontinued for lack of appropriation. The report contains also useful advice upon library buildings; plans and illustrations representing recent library construction in Indiana; brief account of county libraries; record of Carnegie donations to Indiana; a series of paragraph reports concerning Indiana libraries; and an elaborate tabulated record of the libraries of the state.

MISSOURI LIBRARY COMMISSION.

On June 24 Governor Folk appointed the members of the recently created state library commission, as follows: Miss Adelaide J. Thompson, Jefferson City Public Library, to serve six years; Purd B. Wright, librarian St. Joseph Public Library, to serve four years; Rev. Dr. J. P. Green, president William Jewell College Library, to serve two years.

State Library Associations

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the First and Third Districts of the California Library Association was held at Stockton on May 31. At the morning session an address of welcome was delivered by Frederick M. West, president of the Stockton Public Library board. William P. Kimball spoke on the purpose of the modern library movement; Miss Harriet M. Mann read a paper on "Library of Congress cards, how to order and use them;" and J. M. Coover, principal of Sonora High School, spoke on "the best catalogs for the school library." The afternoon session was marked by an excellent question box discussion, conducted by Miss Mary Sutcliffe; and papers were read on "The catalog of the children's room," by Mrs. Alice G. Whitbeck; "Special catalogs," by Lauren W. Ripley; and "Technical cataloging and its application to the small library," by Miss Beatrice Barker. At the close of the session the visitors were taken for an automobile trip about the city; and in the evening a dinner was served at Madden's Café, at which 30 guests were present.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Charles S. Wooding, Bristol.

Secretary: Miss Grace S. Child, Public Library, Derby.

Treasurer: Miss Jessie Hayden, East Hartford.

The spring meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held in the public library, Putnam, Wednesday, June 12, with Mr. C. L. Wooding, the newly elected president, in the chair. Dr. J. B. Kent, president of the Putnam Library Association, cordially welcomed the association and spoke of the pride Connecticut takes in its libraries.

The secretary's report of the February meet-

ing was read and accepted. A motion was passed to appoint a committee of three to draw up resolutions concerning the death of Major W. F. Osborne, librarian of the Derby Neck Library. Mr. W. K. Stetson was appointed chairman. An invitation to hold the October meeting of the association at the Memorial Library in Fairfield was read and the motion passed to accept the same. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The first subject of the morning's session, "Periodicals," was then introduced by Miss Emma C. Hammond, librarian of the Danielson Free Public Library. She was followed by Miss Harriet R. Lewis, librarian of the Thompson Public Library, Mrs. Bell B. Riggleman, librarian of the Willimantic Public Library, and Miss Lillian M. Gamwell, librarian of the Rockville Public Library, all of whom gave their personal experience in dealing with periodicals in small libraries. They were followed by Mr. Robert K. Shaw, assistant librarian of the Worcester Public Library, who commented on the various points given and added others, among which was a list of the first 25 magazines for a small library.

Some of the points brought out in the discussion were these: In making up a list of magazines for a library consider the interests and needs of all classes and ages; the most satisfactory plan for ordering magazines is through one agent; the small library may well have duplicate copies of a few of the most popular magazines for circulation, which should be placed in binders of heavy pasteboard or of lighter weight material and have book pocket and dating slip and be issued like any book. In deciding what magazines to bind choose first two or three like *Harper's*, of general interest because of both stories and more serious articles, then follow with those like the *World's Work*, which will be used largely for reference; bind strongly, letter simply and plainly. Indexes are desirable for the small library, the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* being the most useful; let even the small library have at least one educational periodical, for which purpose the *School Review*, *Educational Review*, and *Teacher's College Record* are recommended. Magazines for children recommended are *St. Nicholas*, *Youth's Companion*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Boys and Girls*, *Little Chronicle*, *Amateur Work*, and *Bird Lore*. Technical magazines which are too expensive for a small library to pay for outright may be taken and sold after two weeks to some person in town; the *Connecticut Magazine* should be taken by all Connecticut libraries.

Mrs. Mary E. S. Root, children's librarian at the Providence Public Library, was then introduced and gave a stimulating and helpful talk on "Library work with children." She spoke of the advisability of having a separate room or corner for the children, as pleasant and attractive as possible, but con-

sidered it far more important to have a sufficient number of books than to have a handsome room. She mentioned the New York State Library list of best books for the year as a valuable guide in selecting children's books. She thought it unnecessary to have many magazines in the children's room, because they are likely to lead to the habit of desultory reading. She advised circulating current numbers of *St. Nicholas*. To know what books to duplicate and what classes to fill up she suggested noticing the shelves in the busiest season to see which are empty and which books are always in. She said that exhibits in the library of penmanship, drawing, basketry, which are the children's own work, draw to the library new children and fathers and mothers; also that the Providence Public Library does not buy Alger, Stratemeyer, L. T. Meade, or Johnston's "Little colonel" series.

The morning session was then adjourned for those in attendance to enjoy a delicious luncheon served by the ladies of the Second Congregational Church.

At the afternoon session the resolutions on the death of Major Osborne were presented and passed, and the secretary was instructed to send a copy of them to Major Osborne's wife and daughter.

"The library and the school" was the first subject of the afternoon's program and this was taken up from the librarian's point of view by Mr. Samuel Sweet Green, librarian of the Worcester Public Library. He emphasized that we must establish cordial relations between teachers and librarians; that we must be cordial to the children; that we should have pleasant children's rooms, which the children will enjoy visiting. He suggested that we notice holidays by having books relating to them in evidence; that we notice the birthdays of authors in whom children are interested by picture bulletins; that we have special collections of minerals, flowers, and objects showing processes of manufacture. He urged that librarians be active-minded to see in what way they can interest teachers and make the library a pleasant centre; that they help freely but not too much. Other suggestions were to send books to different school houses; to let each teacher take as many books as she wanted for school and personal use; to furnish material to supplement school work; to guide children to read the best books; to make large use of pictures; to have special exhibitions.

Mr. Arthur Deerin Call, principal of the Second North School of Hartford, continued the subject from the teacher's point of view. He said that classes from the schools should visit the library in a body; that these classes should be taught the use of the library; that story-telling should be carried on at the library; that librarians should go into the schools regularly and announce the names of

the best books for children; that they should visit the schools oftener; that school people should be on library boards. He urged teachers to use the laboratory method in schools, and said that children should be taught the use of the dictionary and intelligent use of books; that children should be sent to the library with definite references to certain books.

A letter was then read from Miss Katherine Rogers of New Canaan, asking that librarians send her lists of duplicate books which they would like to sell or exchange.

Professor Walter Ballou Jacobs, of Brown University, gave the closing address of the afternoon. His text, "My book and heart, shall never part," was taken from the New England Primer, to which with other ancient school books he alluded as having worth and sanctity because of age. His address, which was thoughtful and inspiring, may be summarized by these three points: 1, cherish worthy school books as old and faithful friends; 2, seek and love great books as friends and liberators; 3, make all of life a period of continual learning and liberation.

A motion was passed extending the thanks of the association to the trustees of the library for their entertainment and to the speakers for their contributions to the meeting.

GRACE A. CHILD, *Secretary*.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Miss Virginia Tutt, Public Library, South Bend.

Secretary: Miss Susan Beck, Public Library, Crawfordsville.

Treasurer: Demarchus C. Brown, State Library, Indianapolis.

The annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association will be held in Indianapolis, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 17 and 18. Mr. A. E. Bostwick, president of the American Library Association, will be one of the speakers.

KENTUCKY LIBRARY CONFERENCE

The first conference of Kentucky librarians was held at the Woman's Club in Louisville, June 26 and 27. Invitations to the conference had been sent out and the program prepared by the Louisville Free Public Library. The secretary of the library, Mr. R. W. Brown, gave a hearty welcome to the delegates, after which brief papers were read on the following subjects: Book selecting, by Miss M. K. Bullitt, librarian Lexington Public Library; Book ordering, by Mr. George T. Settle, head of order department Louisville Free Public Library; Book cataloging, by Miss Anne M. Spears, librarian Covington Public Library; Work with children, by Miss Adeline B. Zachert, children's librarian, Louisville Free Public Library. In each of these papers emphasis was laid on the elementary principles underlying the subject, in order that begin-

ners in library work and the large number of non-librarians present might get an insight into library methods and gain the greatest possible advantage from the program. Each topic gave rise to discussion and called forth additional information, especially the one on work with children.

The evening session was intended to be of greater interest to the general public. The first address was delivered by Dr. H. G. Enelow, of Louisville, on "The function of the library in society." It consisted of a clear, forceful presentation of the changed idea with regard to the purposes of the library of the present over that of former days and showed in a convincing manner its great power in the educational system of to-day. The second address was given by Miss M. E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, Chicago, on "Library forces," as exemplified in the various organizations of to-day. The origin and purposes of the American Library Association were clearly outlined and attention called to the various state and local associations, together with the work done by the library schools, commissions and state libraries in various parts of the country. Due credit was given to these forces for the present advanced status of library work. The session closed with a delightful informal reception and refreshments by the members of the Woman's Club, under whose auspices the evening program was given.

The third session began with the opening of the question box, which proved to be very interesting on account of the many questions, which were answered satisfactorily by Miss Ahern. The general subject for the morning was a review of the library situation in the state. Mrs. Wallace M. Bartlett, of Lawrenceburg, in a paper on "Libraries in Kentucky," presented the results of a great deal of investigation and correspondence on the part of the Women's Federation. It showed that there are in the state 16 free public libraries, 15 subscription libraries, six good-sized college libraries and more than two score libraries of small educational institutions, which for reference purposes take the place of public libraries in their vicinities. Of the 117 counties in the state there are 68 without any libraries. Miss Fannie C. Rawson, of Louisville, read a report on the "Travelling libraries of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs," which has 84 libraries of 60 volumes each in circulation in the Kentucky mountains. It was accompanied by a large map showing the location of these libraries as well as the free public and subscription libraries in the state. She related many interesting incidents and showed how the demand for these libraries was far greater than the supply. She was followed by Miss Euphemia K. Corwin, librarian of Berea College Library, on the "Travelling libraries of Berea College," which has 60 cases of about

25 volumes each, in circulation also among the mountain people. It developed that in a few cases these two movements crossed one another, and one of the beneficial results of the conference will be co-operation between them. Mr. Frank K. Kavanaugh, acting librarian of the State Library at Frankfort, read a very informing paper on the State Library, dwelling on its historical development, its present organization and future possibilities. These four papers made an excellent preparation for the presentation of the plan for a Kentucky Library Association, which was urged by Mr. W. F. Yust, librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library. The purposes of such an organization were summarized as (1) to develop library interest throughout the state; (2) to promote fellowship and a spirit of helpfulness among librarians; (3) to encourage inter-library exchanges; (4) to spread a knowledge of the educational system of the state and co-operate with other educational bodies; (5) to collect library statistics and co-operate with other organizations for state development.

A constitution and by-laws was then read by the committee appointed to make a report, which was adopted, and thereby the Kentucky Library Association was created with 52 charter members, which number will be increased to 75 within the next few days. The following officers were elected: president, Wm. F. Yust; 1st vice-president, Miss M. K. Bullitt; 2d vice-president, Miss Euphemia K. Corwin; secretary-treasurer, Miss M. B. Pratt, librarian of the Highland Branch, Louisville Free Public Library; member at large of the executive committee, Miss Fannie C. Rawson. These officers constitute the executive committee.

The delegates to the conference were then entertained at luncheon by the Louisville Free Public Library in the Dutch room of the Old Inn. A number of the library trustees were present to participate in this very pleasant conclusion of the conference.

In the afternoon the visiting librarians and a number of patrons of the library were conducted through the city library in its present quarters and then through the various rooms of the new Carnegie building which is nearing completion. The building called forth many expressions of surprise and approval. Those who had sufficient strength and energy left then paid a brief visit to the beautiful new library of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Highland Branch of the city library.

An important feature of the conference was a library exhibit showing blanks, forms, tools, bulletins, book-lists, literature on library management, etc. It included a number of pamphlets for free distribution, some of them furnished by the A. L. A. Publishing Board. The blanks and forms were mounted on

cards of uniform size, which will be placed in a suitable box and labelled "Travelling library exhibit." Several applications from libraries in different parts of the state were immediately received for this exhibit. It will be circulated like any other travelling library and afford opportunity for every one interested to examine it at leisure.

Forty-nine librarians represented the following libraries in the state: Covington Public, Lexington Public, Louisville Free Public, Lawrenceburg, Paducah Carnegie, Harrodsburg, Kentucky State, Kentucky State Historical, Cynthiana High School, Berea College, Baptist Theological Seminary and Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The librarian of the Carnegie Library, New Albany, Ind., was present, as were also persons interested from Anchorage and Jeffersonton, Ky., Tarrytown, N. Y., and Sulphur Springs, Texas. Miss Merica Hoagland, director of the Library School of Winona Technical Institute, Indianapolis, and a number of local townspeople took part in the discussion. All of those present were enthusiastic over the results of the conference and the prospects of the new association. Wm. F. Yust.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB

President: Louis N. Wilson, Clark University Library, Worcester.

Secretary: Drew B. Hall, Millicent Library, Fairhaven.

Treasurer: Miss Mary E. Robbins, Simmons College Library Department, Boston.

The annual meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held at Clark University, Worcester, and at Hopedale, June 21-22. The first session was held on Friday afternoon, June 21, in the library of Clark University. President G. Stanley Hall made the address of welcome.

This was followed by a paper on "Open shelves and book thefts," by Mr. Deloraine P. Corey, trustee of the Malden Public Library. Mr. Corey pointed out that the open shelf system has been adopted by many libraries as a matter of course, but that the practical side of it has been overlooked, and that it is now coming up for judgment. Quotations from various library reports were read, showing the numbers of books lost, and the inconveniences of the system, the displacement of books, resulting in difficulty in finding certain books when called for, and the increased work for the library staff in this search for misplaced books, and in the keeping of the shelves in order. From a business standpoint Mr. Corey said that the system was "loose, unbusinesslike, and productive of undesirable results." Moreover, from a moral standpoint it should be given careful consideration. All taking of books from a library save through the regular channels is theft, not carelessness, and "the deliberate placing of opportunities for crime before children and

the morally weak is in itself a crime." Taking it as a whole Mr. Corey said that the defects of the system were too serious for its continuance. He was, however, in favor of a modified system.

Mr. Charles K. Bolton, of the Boston Athenæum, then spoke on the subject. He asked whether the business point of view of the library was the issuing of books to be taken home, or the dealing with people in the library. If it is to deal with people, the giving out of books over a counter is not satisfactory. Mr. Bolton, too, laid stress upon the point that unless we are careful we consider too much the numbers of books lost, through the open shelf system, and not enough the benefits derived from it, the chief of these being the intimacy with literature brought about. It should be considered as part of the incidental expenses of a library that some books are lost. In every library, however, there must be certain books kept back from the open shelves. Valuable books should not be exposed to the danger of thefts. A library should be as liberal as possible and yet preserve the city's property.

Miss Terwilliger, of Clark University Library, was to have spoken, but owing to an accident was unable to be present.

A brief paper by Mr. Wadlin, of the Boston Public Library, was then read by Mr. Ayer, of the Cambridge Public Library. Statistics of books lost from the Boston library were given, and explanations of certain methods now in use, by which it is hoped these losses may be checked. At the branches where the loss is greatest certain restrictions have been placed upon the younger users, for instance, a library card must be presented before access to the children's shelves is granted. The cancelling of fines incurred by persons under 16 (at the end of six months), thus giving them the privilege of taking books on their cards again, has indirectly had its effect on the number of books missing. Fewer books are taken out irregularly.

The session was closed with a paper by Mr. Harlan H. Ballard, of the Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield, on the "Modern Babel," of spelling reform. Mr. Ballard pointed out that the present list of 300 words suggested by the board is only the opening wedge "cleverly and insidiously compiled to lead to far-reaching reform," that the board is aiming to change the entire language to an external phonetic form. This Mr. Ballard proved to be unnecessary, as our present system is simpler, and undesirable in that it gives rise to innumerable difficulties, among them that it would necessitate the learning of two languages, the old as well as the new, that it would obscure derivations, and that it would lead to innumerable inconsistencies in various text books, between the common and scientific names, as to be thoroughly consistent we would have to change the Latin language also.

There would likewise be endless inconsistencies, due to the fact that the board does not advocate reform in proper names. The chief objection, however, is that a barrier would be raised between the United States and other English-speaking people. We cannot conceive of the inhabitants of Great Britain submitting to have their language revolutionized by a board of men in New York City. Lastly, Mr. Ballard proved such reform to be impossible. There is no agreement among the members of the board as to pronunciation, so how can spelling to conform with pronunciation be agreed upon? Moreover, the people do not want it and will not have it. And as the English language is the growth of thousands of years, and every word in it has come to its present spelling for a special reason, any attempt to force sudden machine-made changes upon us is absurd.

Mr. Ballard closed by emphasizing the fact that the reform is capable of much mischief, and by warning the "friends of English undefiled" that they must be on their guard.

Mr. Gerald Stanley Lee, of Northampton, spoke at the evening session. His subject was "Dealing with people in rows: being a few observations on the difficulties and inspirations of ticket agents, ministers, librarians, congressmen, and others who love people in rows." Mr. Lee began by giving the following advice: "Act the way you feel, feel the way you ought to. If you cannot act the way you feel, and do not feel the way you ought to—go off." The great trouble to-day is that people do not act the way they feel. Instead of realizing that the emotions are meant to do things with, people hold on to them, and suppress them, only showing special ones suitable to the occasion. "Rows" of people tend to bring this about. Dealing with "rows" suppresses one. To avoid this, three things must be cultivated. First the spirit of freedom, "act the way you feel, and feel the way you ought to;" second, the spirit of curiosity. We must cultivate the power of seeing people as they are, and of treating them as individuals. "The hard fact about people in a row is that each feels as if he were some one in particular. He is," and must be treated as such—but not as some one else in particular. We must learn to distinguish. Human nature and "the eloquence of little things" must be studied, a scientific curiosity about men cultivated. Lastly, we must seek to have the spirit of the artist, the seeing men as they are to be, and the knowing how to bring them into the world that belongs to them. It is this particularly that keeps us from being "suppressed," and helps us to make the most of our opportunities as the "rows" go by.

Saturday morning, June 22, the club met in the town hall at Hopedale, at the invitation of the trustees and librarian of the Bancroft Memorial Library. The address of welcome was given by Lieutenant governor Draper.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. The subject of reference work was then taken up. Papers were read by Miss June R. Donnelly, of Simmons College, Boston; Miss Eugenia M. Henry, of Clark University Library, Worcester; Miss Eva S. Gardner, of the Providence Public Library, and Mr. Robert K. Shaw, of the Worcester Free Public Library. Miss Henry spoke on reference work in a college library, and Mr. Shaw showed how to make the catalog more helpful in enabling the public to do reference work for themselves, by the use of simple subject headings and subdivisions. Miss Donnelly and Miss Gardner treated of reference work in its general phase.

Miss Caroline M. Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, then spoke on "What you can get out of a Henty book." Miss Hewins showed how these books are of value from an historical point of view. Children of high school age are taught the history of our own country, but not that of European countries. The Henty books serve to give a broader view, and to show the connection between United States and European history. The books may also be used to lead the way to better reading. The best use to make of them is "as a peg to hang things on."

Through the courtesy of Mr. J. B. Bancroft, of Hopedale, the members of the club were entertained as his guests at luncheon, after which they visited the Bancroft Memorial Library, and from there were given a short drive about the town.

The following officers were elected: president, Louis N. Wilson, librarian Clark University Library, Worcester; vice-presidents, Harlan H. Ballard, librarian Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield; Frederick A. Chase, librarian City Library, Lowell; Miss Katherine P. Loring, trustee Public Library, Beverly; secretary, Drew B. Hall, librarian Millicent Library, Fairhaven; treasurer, Miss Mary E. Robbins, Simmons College Library Department, Boston; recorder, Miss Gertrude E. Forrest, librarian Public Library, Milton.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, State Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

Secretary: Miss Katharine G. Ling, Public Library, Detroit.

Treasurer: Miss Nina K. Preston, Hall-Fowler Memorial Library, Ionia.

On Thursday evening, June 6, the Michigan Library Association opened its 17th annual meeting at the Detroit Museum of Art. It was a joint session with the League of Michigan Municipalities and the State Health Officers, also holding their conventions. Mr. Heinemann, chairman, introduced Mayor Thompson, of Detroit, who welcomed the associations. He was followed by the dean of the University of Michigan. Dr. Vaughan, in

an able address on "The relation of the health officer to the municipality." Mr. Theodore W. Koch, librarian of the University of Michigan, also gave an interesting talk on libraries, illustrated with stereopticon views.

The first business session on Friday morning, June 7, was opened by the annual address on "The relation of the library to the municipality," by the president, Samuel H. Ranck, which it is hoped to give in a later number of the JOURNAL. This was followed by the appointment of committees.

The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$35.16 and five new members, which number was further augmented to 14.

Short reports of the A. L. A. meetings at Asheville, N. C., were given by Mr. Koch, Mrs. Turner, Miss Preston and Miss Pollard. The association then listened to Miss Ruth M. Wright, of the state library, on the summer normal school work conducted by the state board of library commissioners. There were 34 students of all grades represented, and the instruction presupposed no knowledge of books. In the discussion Miss Lathrop, of Marquette, stated that 33½ per cent. of the people in the northern peninsula are without library privileges. Several letters from Mrs. M. C. Spencer, state librarian, were read by the president; these were relative to the establishment of institute work to be conducted as an informal round table, suggesting as well the plan of districting the state to form a few centers; announcing the meeting of the state teachers' association in October at Battle Creek and of a library section being added to their sessions; and stating that if desired a quarterly bulletin of activities in Michigan library matters would be undertaken by the board. These letters were referred to the executive committee for consideration.

The roll call of Michigan libraries, to which 22 responded, was an interesting feature of the morning session; the registered attendance was 75.

After a luncheon at the Detroit Public Library, to which the librarians were invited by the commissioners, all the visitors were given an automobile ride around the boulevards and the beautiful island park. The enjoyment was somewhat dampened by the rain. A supper and concert at Electric Park concluded the afternoon.

The evening session began at 8.15. Miss Nina Preston, of the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library, Ionia, Mich., opened the meeting with a paper on "The work of the small library in a small town," what it costs and what it can do. In the not far distant future the need of a library in every locality will be taken for granted as is the public school. Good work can be done without a building. One may rent and still live. The library is not the housing, but the books themselves. If the town must start in a small way it is wise to rent rooms in a good location, and use

your income for a good selection of books rather than invest all in a building. When a city builds, it should be for enlargement and expansion. To try to run a library on too small an appropriation does not pay. Money is better spent on a juvenile department than on reform schools and juvenile courts. Money for libraries may be by city appropriations, gifts and fines; the surest is the former. This sum should cover expenditures for maintenance, administration and growth. Small libraries spend one-fifth for books, two-fifths for salaries, and two-fifths for maintenance. To run a small library costs about \$2600.

An excellent paper was given by W. C. Sprague, editor of the *American Boy*. His ultimatum was: give the boy what he likes to read, not what you want him to read. He reads for the pleasure it gives him. The normal boy will want normal reading. In statistics taken by the Y. M. C. A. as to preferences in magazine literature of boys, the *Youth's Companion* and the *American Boy* took the lead. The boy does not care for women writers, but prefers men. The book of adventure, full of incident and hairbreadth escapes and the historical novel are the kinds the boy likes. Mr. Sprague's paper was a plea for the boy's book for the boy, and in the discussion the great dearth of good, stirring story-writers for boys was deplored.

Mr. Clarence E. Bement, member of the board of education, Lansing, in his paper on "Library workers as students," set forth that the gist of the matter lies in librarians being educated in the knowledge of books—by a love of them, in the first place; and the reading of them, in the second. In the discussion of this subject it was thought many librarians were overworked because of the demands of the position, Mr. Ranck stating that he knew of at least twenty librarians whom he could name who were in sanitariums. At this point the librarian in the abstract was lost sight of, and the subject became the woman's side of the question, until the meeting was adjourned, owing to the lateness of the hour.

On Saturday morning the session opened at 9.30 with the reading of Miss Ida Rosenberg's admirable paper, "To what extent can a library direct the taste of its readers?" As Miss Rosenberg has charge of the circulating department of the Ryerson Public Library of Grand Rapids she speaks as one having authority, and the patrons of the library have reason to thank her for the excellent and helpful selections on timely topics and the good literature which she places within easy access. Miss Rosenberg's paper evoked the query, "What is done with worn-out books?" Miss Pollard, of Grand Rapids, told of theirs being sent to the jail, but subject to the amusing and self-appointed supervision of the W. C. T. U. Mr. Utley said worn-out books in Detroit were given to the jail and social settlement; some are destroyed. Mr. Ranck

spoke of the books at the Enoch Pratt Library, of Baltimore, being presented to the schools in small towns in southern Maryland, and as an outgrowth of this libraries were started. Mr. Koch brought the discussion back to the subject of Miss Rosenberg's paper, and spoke of the Red Star and Cap and Gown collections of the university library, and the favor with which these and other selections of a similar nature have been received.

Miss Aniela Pcray, of the Detroit Public Library, read a paper on "Libraries of factories and industrial institutions." The work is comparatively recent in its inception in Detroit, being about a year old, and has met with great favor and consideration at the hands of every employer but one, who has been approached. The discussion was led by Miss Walsh, from the Hamilton Carhartt factory. Miss Walsh has charge of the "welfare work," which is the care of the girls employed, and says they are greatly interested in the library and many of them are cultivating a taste for good books. Miss Moran, from the Finck overall factory, made a few remarks of a like nature, and both thought the libraries not only benefit the employee, but on the whole make the girls more contented.

"Human interest in library work in a mining district," by Miss Anna J. Fiske, of the Calumet and Hecla Mining Co. Library, was a most interesting paper. She said in part:

"Of the foreign nationalities in Calumet (about 20,000 in all) the Finns take the lead in point of numbers, at least half of the population of the county being said to belong to that nationality. Probably the next most numerous are the English-speaking nationalities, taken as a class, including the English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh. After these in varying ratios come Germans, French, Italians, Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, Belgians, Dutch, Slovacs, Croatians, Poles, Russians, Swiss, Hebrews, Syrians, Armenians, Chinese, negroes and Indians, and doubtless a few others. It will be readily seen our library work has to do largely with foreigners, but we have no Finnish colony, no little Italy and no Polish quarter. The different nationalities are scattered throughout the town, living side by side, and often in the same building.

"Our library is peculiarly fortunate in belonging to a corporation whose name is synonymous with fair dealing and generosity, not only to all those connected with it, but to the general public as well. As an instance of this its library supplies books to its employees and also to the entire population of two adjoining villages. Not only this; it also grants students' cards (so-called) to adults resident of the neighboring mines and villages on which they may take out non-fiction.

"Modern educators all agree that beauty has a physiological as well as a psychological ef-

fect upon the child, and should have a large part in every scheme of education. This need of beautiful things the library may help to supply, not only by having a building in itself beautiful and in adorning it with plants and flowers, but also by the placing of good pictures on its walls and in providing plaster casts of at least a few of the great pieces of sculpture. In this connection I would like to speak of what I believe to be the great value of a collection of pictures in every library, mounted or otherwise prepared for circulation. Such a collection may be more necessary in an isolated community like ours than in a large city or nearby town, but there can be no doubt of its usefulness in any library. Like most mining towns, we are far from any large city with its handsome building, art galleries and beautiful parks, and we are nearly as far from any fine farming country. There are children in Calumet who not only have seen none of the world's art treasures, but they have never even seen a sheep. You can see that there will be a great lack in the lives of these children unless in some way the deficiency can be at least partly filled. This the picture collection helps to do. Bird study and other branches of nature work gain an added attractiveness when illustrated by pictures, and geography and history lose much of their dryness when glimpses are obtained of the regions described in the text-books. Our library circulates an average of 6000 pictures yearly, and I am sure that the good they do is inestimable. In considering the mining community one is apt to think of the working men as being all miners, and I am frequently asked, 'What about the miners, do they read?' The miners certainly do read; in fact, it is said that the population of a mining town always has a much larger proportion of readers than that of a manufacturing town. The very large circulation of books by our library in proportion to the size of the town would seem to bear out this statement. However, in a mining community perhaps not more than half or two-thirds of the men actually work underground. The remainder includes the surface men (day laborers), those in all mechanical trades and in the engineering or other professions, besides the merchants and other tradesmen who supply the wants of the community.

"Where there is such a large foreign population it seems almost imperative that at least the nationalities having the most numerous representation should be supplied with reading matter in their own languages. The mining company to which our library belongs recognizes this need, and we therefore have a collection of foreign books, small perhaps as compared with the collection of the large libraries, but well suited to our needs and serving as a good basis for a larger collection. We have at present a little more than 3200 volumes divided among nine languages—

German, French, Italian, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish, Polish, Slovenian, and Croatian. That they are appreciated is shown by their large circulation, which has averaged so far about ten thousand volumes yearly, which is more than three times the entire number of volumes in the collection. I wish that the powers that be not only in mining communities, but in every community where there are large numbers of foreign residents, might see the great value of this branch of library work and realize what an important factor it is in the making of contented and useful citizens.

"In choosing books for our foreign collections there are certain kinds that we try always to include: dictionaries, of course; a Bible, which is always attainable; a New Testament with the foreign and English text in parallel columns, which may be had in some of the languages mentioned; translations of all the good English and American fiction possible to obtain; and translations or original works on American history and biography; and in fact any books describing America and its institutions. In some of the languages, particularly the Slovenian and Croatian, it is unfortunately almost impossible to obtain anything on these subjects. After we have provided for these, we get a miscellaneous assortment, including travel, popular science, and, of course, a rather large proportion of fiction, getting illustrated editions when possible.

"The reading room should be supplied with periodicals in each foreign language represented in the books. We try to have at least two in each language, and the back numbers of these periodicals are circulated in the same way as are those in our own language. In order to supplement the very limited number of books in America and its institutions, it would be desirable to have a series of talks on these and kindred subjects for the people of each nationality in their own language. I cannot see that in the use of English books the mining community differs from any other, unless the percentage of fiction drawn may be a little lower than the average.

"In a mining town, as in all others, the co-operation of libraries and schools is most important. The library may be a very important factor, however, in supplementing the work which the schools have begun. In Calumet (and I am sure it is the same throughout the Michigan mining region) we have no child labor problem, and the truancy laws are strictly enforced. Still there are large numbers of boys and girls who leave school as soon as they are allowed to do so, and after a few years they regret their wasted opportunities and try to add to their very limited education. These employ private tutors, enter the night school or Y. M. C. A. classes, or take up some of the many courses offered by correspondence schools. To all these, and especially the latter class, the library may be of

vast service in helping them to fit themselves for their active duties as citizens of our commonwealth."

The report of the committee on resolutions was presented by the chairman, Mr. Koch, as follows:

"Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the Michigan Library Association be extended to the local committee for the varied entertainment provided during this session; to the Detroit Public Library Commission for its kind hospitality; and to Mr. C. M. Burton for the thoughtfulness in opening his library to the members of the association.

"Resolved, That the Michigan Library Association approves most heartily the suggestion of the state librarian in regard to the issue of a quarterly bulletin devoted to the library interests of the state, to be printed at the expense of the state board of library commissioners. The committee would recommend that the project be referred to the executive officers of the association, who shall make such arrangements with the board of library commissioners in regard to the editing and publishing of such bulletins as they may deem fit.

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the Library Section of the Michigan State Teachers' Association merits the hearty support and active co-operation of the librarians of the state and that all who can possibly do so should attend the meeting at Battle Creek next October.

"Since the last meeting of the association the library movement has lost a staunch friend in the death of Mr. John Patton, of Grand Rapids, a man of sterling character, of genial temperament and a tireless worker. The Grand Rapids Public Library in his death has sustained a loss almost irreparable. But we feel the loss is not all theirs, for the influence of one who was so nearly ideal as a trustee and who gave so generously of his time and interest, extended beyond the immediate field of his professional activities. And in extending our sympathies to Grand Rapids Public Library we would voice the sense of our own loss.

"Therefore, be it resolved, That we put upon the records of this association the expression of our appreciation of his worth and our sorrow at his death and our sympathy with his friends; and be it further resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his immediate family."

In regard to the districting of the state with reference to the holding of sectional meetings and round table discussions, the committee did not feel that it was sufficiently well informed on the plans of the state board of library commissioners to make any report, and it was thought best to leave this matter to the judgment of the executive committee.

The nominating committee, through its chairman, presented the following names: for president, Miss G. M. Walton, librarian, State Normal College, Ypsilanti; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Annie McDonnell, Bay City Public Library; 2d vice-president, Miss Annie A. Polard, Ryerson Public Library, Grand Rapids; secretary, Miss Katherine G. Ling, Detroit Public Library; treasurer, Miss Nina K. Preston, Hall-Fowler Memorial Library, Ionia, Mich.

The place of meeting for the 18th annual convention was discussed, but as no decision was arrived at it was referred to the executive committee.

The meetings adjourned, having had more than 230 in attendance.

KATHERINE G. LING, Secretary.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

LIBRARY ROUND TABLE MEETINGS

By arrangement of a committee of the New York Library Association 28 round table meetings were held in the state from April 25 to June 17, 1907. One was in the month of April, 22 were in May, and five in June. Two districts, centering at Glens Falls and Plattsburg, held meetings where there were none last year. But this gain was offset by leaving out Port Henry, Malone and Syracuse. In the central part of the state several changes of districts were made with the purpose of reaching new neighborhoods. The number of libraries represented at any one meeting ranged from two to 18; the number of persons from six to 35. An attendance of 125 was secured at one evening session to which the public were invited. Where only two libraries were reported, 10 persons were present and the meeting, though held on a stormy day, was considered well worth while. The total attendance was 207 libraries and 453 persons. Visitors from outside the district were counted among the persons, but their libraries were not counted. The average was 7 1/3 libraries or 16 persons at each meeting.

The following table shows the place and date of each meeting, with the number of libraries and persons in attendance and the visitor's name:

New York Library Round Table Meetings, 1907

Place.	Date.	Libs.	Persons.	Visitor.
Albany.....	June 17	15	22	Miss Corinne Bacon
Troy.....	May 1	9	12	"
Chatham.....	June 8	5	13	"
Glens Falls.....	" 3	4	11	W. R. Eastman
Johnstown.....	May 26	7	13	A. L. Peck
Utica.....	" 7	14	35	Mrs. S. C. Fairchild
				Miss C. M. Underhill
Watertown.....	" 15	10	26	Miss E. J. Hawkins
Plattsburg.....	" 10	4	17	A. L. Peck
Sidney.....	" 13	4	9	W. R. Eastman
Norwich.....	" 16	6	14	"
Dryden.....	Apr. 25	6	6	"
Montour Falls.....	May 12	5	20	A. Wynkoop
Hornell.....	" 16	8	19	"
Friendship.....	" 23	8	25	W. R. Eastman
Dunkirk.....	" 24	8	13	"
Auburn.....	" 24	7	15	A. Wynkoop
Geneva.....	" 9	4	10	"
Canandaigua.....	" 10	2	10	"
Rochester.....	" 11	10	13	"
Buffalo.....	" 11	16	24	Miss E. M. Chandler
Middletown.....	" 17	8	16	Miss T. Hitchler
Newburg.....	" 16	7	12	H. W. Fison
Kingston.....	" 17	4	10	"
Irvington.....	" 15	8	19	Miss T. Hitchler
Mt. Vernon.....	" 9	8	15	W. R. Eastman
Richmond Hill.....	" 18	4	6	Miss J. F. Hume
Bridgehampton.....	June 10	5	25	Miss J. A. Rathbone
Southold.....	" 7	7	25	A. W. Wynkoop
Total, 28 m't'gs		207	453	

These figures show a slight gain over those of last year, amounting to 13 additional li-

braries and 51 persons, while the number of meetings was one less. The local interest at each place of meeting is clearly growing. At about one-half of the meetings there were two sessions of two hours each, held in the morning and afternoon, with lunch between. Other meetings were in the afternoon only. The informal character of the gatherings was maintained throughout.

As in former years a visitor was named for each meeting by the state committee. The Brooklyn, Queens Borough and Utica libraries, as well as the state library at Albany, were of great assistance in this service.

The following topics were selected for discussion from a printed list offered to the libraries in advance:

How to select books.....	17 times
Where to buy books and how.....	13 "
Recent books.....	8 "
How to duplicate.....	1 "
Reference books most used.....	11 "
What not to bind.....	4 "
Description of books on catalog cards.....	4 "
Printed or card catalogs.....	1 "
Special subject lists and bulletins.....	2 "
Mending books.....	8 "
Charging by cards.....	1 "
More than one book to a borrower.....	6 "
Rural delivery of books.....	1 "
Circulation of magazines.....	6 "
Fines and penalties.....	6 "
Work with schools.....	5 "
Children in the library.....	1 "
Subject indexes.....	2 "
Library of Congress cards.....	1 "
Simple methods.....	5 "
Good and bad picture books.....	1 "
Binding.....	1 "
Lists in newspapers.....	1 "
Disinfectants.....	2 "

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Mrs. Annie Smith Ross, Carnegie Library, Charlotte, N. C.

Secretary: Dr. Louis R. Wilson, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.

Treasurer: J. Frank Wilkes, trustee Carnegie Library, Charlotte, N. C.

During the meeting of the American Library Association, the North Carolina Library Association held its third annual meeting in the city of Asheville; 22 members from the state and from South Carolina were present, and a number of members from the local library were in attendance. Several short sessions were held, the first on May 24. The meetings were significant in that several reports of new libraries were presented and that several librarians from South Carolina, who now have no state association, were present and suggestions were made relative to a more definite organization of libraries in that state. It was the pleasure of the association to have with it at one of its meetings Miss Lutie E. Stearns and Mr. A. H. Hopkins, both of whom had been very pleasantly connected with it formerly.

Greensboro was chosen as the place for the next annual meeting. The following officers were elected: president, Mrs. Annie Smith Ross; 1st vice-president, Miss Annie F. Petty;

2d vice-president, Mrs. Solomon Weil; secretary, Dr. Louis R. Wilson; treasurer, Mr. J. Frank Wilkes.

LOUIS R. WILSON, *Secretary.*

WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: T. C. Elliot, Public Library, Walla Walla.

Secretary: Miss Pearl McDonnell, University of Washington Library, Seattle.

Treasurer: Miss Josephine Holgate, State Library, Olympia.

The 3d annual meeting of the Washington Library Association was held at Olympia, June 4 and 5, 1907. About 40 members were present, representing 12 libraries of the state.

The program for the two days' sessions was as follows:

June 4, 2 p.m.: Business session, with reports of officers; "Story telling and books for little ones," Miss Blanchard, Seattle Public Library.

June 5, 9 a.m., "Book reviewing in the Seattle Public Library," Miss Gardner, Seattle; "Club work and the Public Library," Mrs. J. M. Hitt, Olympia Women's Club; "Book buying and use of Library of Congress cards," Miss Switzer, Bellingham; "Library outlook," W. E. Henry, University Library, Seattle.

June 5, 1.30 p.m.: "What to do with old books," J. M. Hitt, State Library; "Report on traveling library work," reports of committees.

The first day's session was spent mostly in business and adjourned early to visit various points of interest. Olympia being one of the oldest settlements in the state, has many houses and points of historical value. In the evening Mr. W. E. Henry, librarian of the University of Washington, delivered a lecture on "Significance of the public library." At the close of the lecture, a reception was given the association by the women's club of Olympia and the state library staff.

One of the most interesting features of the program was Miss Blanchard's "Story telling and books for little ones." After a brief discussion of the best books and best editions, about 20 children were told stories which proved fully as interesting to the members.

The question box brought forth many interesting discussions on order in the library; work of the libraries for the high school; juvenile books; circulation of periodicals; state library law; disposal of the Sunday newspaper comic section. On the last topic Mr. Smith summed up as follows: The library deals with children who do not happen to have the best of homes or the most careful nurture, so must remain on the safe side and refuse to have anything on view in the children's rooms but the very best of literature. The most weighty reason against comic supplements is that from them children are insensibly drawing their ideas of art, humor and life. For children to become infatuated with their gayly painted vulgarity is to destroy all their mental appreciation or taste for

beauty, in the cultivation of which lies their future moral redemption. Familiarity with what is sordid will be fatal, and it is only by appealing to the love of beauty inherent in every human soul that we can hope for the salvation of the race. Portraying all the human relations in these absurd ways has a tendency to cheapen the genuine and real relations of life. Racial prejudice is cultivated in the serving up of the foreigners, the colored race and the Jew and others in various grotesque attitudes. In every way the child mind is perverted and demoralized. The Seattle Public Library does not let the comic section come into view and has not done so for years. It was one of the first to make the move in this direction when 12 years ago it excluded the *New York World* and *New York Herald*, on account of the "yellow kid" monstrosities that had begun at that time.

Officers for 1907-'08 were elected as follows: president, Mr. T. C. Elliot, Walla Walla; 1st vice-president, Miss Grace Switzer, Bellingham; 2d vice-president, Rev. J. M. Allyn, Spokane; secretary, Miss Pearl McDonnell, University of Washington, Seattle; treasurer, Miss Josephine Holgate, State Library, Olympia.

The association passed a resolution of regret that Mr. C. W. Smith, the retiring president, librarian of Seattle Public Library, has resigned and is to leave the library profession. The Seattle Public Library has become a large institution of thousands of volumes housed in a fine Carnegie building through the untiring efforts and efficient management of Mr. Smith.

The next annual meeting will be held at Spokane, Wash., just preceding the American Library Association conference, in order that members may attend both meetings.

PEARL McDONNELL, Secretary.

Library Clubs

NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY INSTITUTE

The third annual institute of the Library Workers of Northwestern Pennsylvania was held at Warren, June 11 and 12, under the auspices of the Warren Public Library.

Miss Alice Hazletine, of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, presided. There were a number of new members enrolled this year, and a pleasant feature of the meeting was the presence, at each session, of several trustees of the Warren library. Mrs. W. H. Filler, a member of the board, opened the first session with an address of welcome; she was followed by Miss Charlotte Evans, of Erie, who read an excellent article on "Government documents for small libraries."

Miss Waterman, of Titusville, was next asked to give a brief outline of the origin of the little organization, for the benefit of the members who had joined this year.

Mrs. Hamilton, of Franklin, followed with

a talk on "Work with clubs," supplemented by Miss Eleanor Carver, of Sharon, who described the interesting club work done by the library in her town.

At the evening session Miss Sherman, of Bradford, read an article on "Work with children in small libraries," followed by the subject, "How to select books," which was discussed by Miss Wilson, of Edinboro, who presented the view taken from the side of the State Normal School, and Miss Leete, of North East, and Miss Rupp, of Oil City, who represented the public library standpoint.

Mr. MacGowan, superintendent of the Warren public schools, then displayed some beautiful stereopticon views of Alaska and the Yellowstone Park.

The next day's morning session was partly devoted to business and partly to pleasure. Committees reported that the invitation from Bradford for the institute next year was accepted, and nominated Miss Lucy Waterman for chairman and Miss Sherman, of Bradford, for secretary. They were unanimously elected.

Miss McKinney, of Grove City College, read an interesting article on "College work and the library"; next followed a round table discussion, led by Miss Weiss, of Warren, on "When to break rules," and Mr. MacGowan on "Co-operation with schools." After this came an automobile trip through the lovely country about the town, with its vistas of rolling hills and winding rivers, through the densely wooded country roads. A luncheon at the country club was given the visiting library workers by the president of the library board of trustees, after which, with cordial thanks, the visitors departed. At this meeting they welcomed Miss Helen Price, of the state library commission, and listened to a short talk by her on the duties of the commission, defining her own work especially, and expressing her desire to be of service to librarians throughout the state.

MARY C. BROOKS, Secretary.

Library Schools and Training Classes

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Commencement exercises were held in the auditorium of the institute on June 6. The library school graduates were: Florence Benton Custer, Madge Estelle Heacock, Helen Hill, Ella Sprague Hitchcock, Katharine Eleanor Hunt, Caroline Hermine Lauman, Jean Baker Martin, Nella Martin, Edmonia Marian Miracle, Lily Moore, Katharine Whipple Strong.

Mrs. S. C. Fairchild gave two lectures to the students in May. Her first lecture was on the American Library Association presidents, and was illustrated with lantern pictures. The second was on "The librarian's reading." On May 21 an informal reception was held in the class-room for Mrs. Fairchild

and Miss Price, library organizer of the Pennsylvania Library Commission.

Mr. Joseph F. Daniels, librarian of the State Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Col., visited the school May 16, and spoke to the class on the "Personality of the librarian."

The out-of-town visits this year included the libraries of Washington and Baltimore, and later those of Trenton, Princeton, and Bryn Mawr.

Alice B. Kroeger, Director.

MICHIGAN SUMMER LIBRARY COURSE

A second annual course of instruction in library methods for teachers, given under the direction of the state board of library commissioners, was opened on June 24 in the summer normal schools of Michigan, to continue until August 2. The course is given in three normal schools, the work in each school being in charge of an instructor appointed by the board. At each course there will be special lectures by Miss Ida Mendenhall, on "Children's books and reading"; Miss Ethel R. Sawyer and Miss Grace E. Salisbury, on "Reference books." Material for the course is provided at each school, including a working library of 300 volumes, chiefly children's books. Credit in the various normal schools will be given to the students who elect to take this course and complete it satisfactorily.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

SUMMER SCHOOL

The summer session opened on June 5 with an enrollment of 40. The greater part of the students of course are from libraries in New York state, though Texas, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Tennessee are represented. This is the largest attendance that we have ever had at a summer session and seems to justify beyond a doubt the change in policy from the massing of instruction in one subject each year, as has been done in the past three or four years, to the general course of study.

COMMENCEMENT

Simple and informal commencement exercises were held on June 28. The director and vice-director addressed the school briefly and the degree of B.L.S. was conferred upon 13 graduates as follows:

Bailey, Louis Jonathan, Ontario, N. Y., B.S., University of Rochester, 1905.

Brown, Mary Gilbert, Elmira, N. Y., B.A., Elmira College, 1895.

Coulter, Edith Margaret, Salinas, Cal., B.A., Stanford University, 1905.

Dinsmoor, Kate Elizabeth, Lawrence, Kan., B.A., University of Kansas, 1903.

Donnelly, June Richardson, Cincinnati, O., B.S., University of Cincinnati, 1895.

Harron, Mrs. Julia (Seofield), Penn Yan, N. Y., B.A., Vassar College, 1897.

Hirshberg, Herbert Simon, Brookline, Mass., B.A., Harvard University, 1900.

Kildal, Arne, Christiania, Norway, Ph.B., University of Christiania, 1904.

Lewis, George Lothrop, Gorham, Me., B.A., Bowdoin College, 1901; M.A., Bowdoin College, 1903.

Merritt, Louisa Flanders, Malone, N. Y., B.A., Cornell University, 1904.

Nerney, May Childs, Albany, N. Y., B.A., Cornell University, 1902.

Steffa, Julia, Pomona, Cal., B.S., Pomona College, 1900.

J. I. WYER, JR., Vice-director.

WINONA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

During May the library school students listened with pleasure and profit to the lectures of Miss Harriet E. Hassler, of the Portland (Ore.) Public Library, on library work for children. Miss Hassler's thorough training and varied experience in the libraries of Pratt Institute, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Chicago and Portland have intensified and rendered most practical her natural enthusiasm in this important field of work. In addition to the Winona course Miss Hassler has spent some time in the Public Library Commission office compiling lists of stories to be read aloud, and revising other lists for general distribution to the libraries of the state.

Weekly observation visits have been made to various libraries selected to illustrate different phases of development and methods. Alexandria and Elwood, under the competent librarianship of Miss Peters and Miss McCollough, afforded opportunity for study of technical methods, work with clubs and schools. At Alexandria the members of the library board invited the class to luncheon, and at Elwood a reception at the library club room enabled the students to meet the library board. The visit to Indiana University gave the library class an opportunity to study the scholarly library designed to meet the needs of special departments in reference and research. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins invited the class to luncheon at the new students' building reception rooms, after which Mr. Jenkins, the librarian, gave an interesting illustrated address on the library building, in process of construction, and this was followed by a visit to the new building.

Of last year's class the following are in library positions:

Almond, Nina E., cataloging department, Library of Indiana University.

Carr, Zada, librarian Public Library, Earl Park.

Clelland, Ethel, cataloger in legislative reference department, Indiana State Library.

Cox, Agnes L., assistant in Krauth Memorial Library, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia.

Griffith, Alice, assistant, Public Library, Indianapolis.

Henley, Lillian E., acting librarian, Public Library, Shelbyville.

Jayne, Nannie W., librarian, Winona Technical Institute.

Longley, Edna, assistant, Public Library, South Bend.
 Masden, Jessie, librarian, Public Library, Piqua, Ohio.
 Reese, Rera, instructor, Winona Technical Institute Library School.
 Smith, Martha Grace, assistant, Public Library, Fort Wayne.
 Trimble, Edith, librarian, Public Library, Kokomo.

MERICA HOAGLAND, *Director*.

WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL

CLOSING EXERCISES

The third year of the school was brought to a pleasant close on Saturday morning, June 8, at which time the faculty, as many of the graduates as could come, and the class of '07 met together at the school. The exercises were presided over by Dr. Charles F. Thwing, president of the university. After opening remarks, the president introduced the dean, Mr. Brett, who gave a short résumé of what the school and its graduates had accomplished these three years. Formal announcement of the appointment of Miss Whittlesey for director was then made, to which Miss Whittlesey responded, adding some words addressed to the class of 1907. After the certificates were presented a buffet luncheon was served.

FACULTY NOTES

Miss Adelaide F. Evans, instructor in library records and supervisor of technical practice work done by the students for the East Branch, has arranged to spend several weeks of the summer vacation working in Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, especially along the lines of her courses of instruction at Western Reserve Library School.

Miss Bertha Barden, '07, has been engaged for the coming year as assistant to Miss Whittlesey in her instruction work in cataloging and classification.

The faculty of the school was represented at the A. L. A. conference at Asheville by the dean, the director, Miss Eastman and Miss Power. They were reinforced by the presence of five graduates—Miss Miller, Miss Stearns, Miss Wilson, '05; Mrs. Hobart and Miss Disette, '06, who arranged for a Western Reserve dinner on Monday evening, May 27. This was not only pleasant but memorable as the first of its kind in the annals of the school, and as making a precedent to be followed in future conferences.

POSITIONS

Miss Edna I. Allyn, '05, who has held the position of librarian of Brooklyn sub-branch, Cleveland, has recently left to accept the position of librarian of the Association Library of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Mr. Carl P. P. Vitz, '05, New York State Library School, '07, has been appointed assistant librarian of the District of Columbia Public Library.

Judging from the many inquiries the demand for people to do special work during the summer is steadily increasing, so that the school has been unable to meet all these requests. Several of this year's class are engaged in such work—three at Hatch Library, Western Reserve University; Miss Foglesong, '05, and Miss Stocker, special '06, are reorganizing the library of the Union Biblical Seminary (3000 volumes), Dayton, Ohio.

Regular appointments for the members of the class of '07 are as follows: Miss Bertha Rickenbrode Barden, assistant, Western Reserve Library School, Cleveland; Miss Nina Carolyn Brotherton, assistant, children's work, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Agnes Thornhill Burns, assistant, children's work, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Mary Lillian Ely, assistant, Dayton Public Library; Miss Alice Marian Flagler, assistant, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Theodosia Estelle Hamilton, librarian, Simpson College Library, Indianola, Iowa; Miss Ethel Marjorie Knapp, assistant, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Nellie May Luehrs, assistant, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Mildred Florence Parsons, assistant, Cleveland Public Library; Miss Marguerite Burnet Resor, assistant cataloger, University of Cincinnati Library; Miss Emeretta G. Root, assistant, District of Columbia Public Library; Miss Louise Catherine Sadlier, assistant, Hatch Library, Western Reserve University.

JULIA M. WHITTLESEY, *Director*.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL

PERSONAL NOTES

Jessie F. Ogden, '06, is order clerk in the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library.

Marjorie Graves, B.L.S. '02, was married April 9 to Mr. Ralph D. Walton, of Oskaloosa, Ia.

Ada Patton, B.L.S. '02, has been appointed cataloger in the Carnegie Library of Charles City, Ia.

Helen T. Kennedy, B.L.S. '03, is now organizing the Kewanee (Ill.) Public Library.

Mrs. Marietta Street Price, B.L.S. '03, is organizing the St. Charles (Ill.) Public School Library.

Edna A. Hester, '05, librarian of the Southern Illinois Normal School at Carbondale, has been granted leave of absence for next year for further study.

Helen A. Bagley, '06, has been appointed assistant librarian in the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library.

Elizabeth Forrest, B.L.S. '06, is organizing the Eagle Grove (Ia.) Public Library, acting as assistant state organizer during the summer.

Mrs. Ida A. Kidder, B.L.S. '06, who has been document cataloger in the Washington State Library at Olympia since last August, has received an appointment with the Oregon Library Commission to work with schools and institutes.

Reviews

AYRES, Samuel Gardiner. *Jesus Christ our Lord: an English bibliography of Christology*, comprising over 5000 titles, annotated and classified. New York, Armstrong, 1906 [1907.] 502 p. O.

A revision and expansion of the list on Christology which was contributed by the author in 1891-92 to the Crooks and Hurst Methodology. It is undoubtedly the most comprehensive list on the subject, covering as it does a period of about 350 years from 1573-1906, and including such writings of all nationalities as have been translated into English. To the list of books under each subject is prefixed a brief statement defining the meaning and scope of the heading as employed by the author, or briefly tracing the various phases under which a historic doctrine has appeared. One must regret that the annotations have not been more frequent, but their place has been partially supplied by a list of recommendations which precedes the main list under each heading. Mr. Ayres is librarian of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J. L.

SEVERANCE, Henry Ormal, comp. *A guide to the current periodicals of the United States and Canada*, 1907. Ann Arbor, Mich., George Wahr, 1907. 330 p. O.

The need of some such work as this has long been recognized by librarians and others who are called on for information on varied subjects. Heretofore, aside from the newspaper annuals, which cover a different field, the only sources of information regarding American periodicals, society publications and transactions have been such lists as the co-operative "List of serials," prepared by the Chicago libraries; the Boston Public Library's "List of periodicals, newspapers, transactions, etc.," or the eight-year-old list of "Publications of societies—none of which are altogether satisfactory for brief and frequent reference. Mr. Severance's "Guide" therefore fills a distinct gap, and will be welcomed as a useful tool. It is to be hoped that, as he indicates in his preface, it may be continued as an annual publication, revised each year and kept up to date. This is essential to its continued usefulness, for the literature with which it deals is constantly variable, and in its record accuracy is only compatible with constant revision. The present volume, indeed, calls for considerable correction, and the reviewer would urge all who use it to follow the compiler's suggestion and send to him note of changes, errors, or titles not included, so that by co-operation a new edition more thoroughly accurate may be ensured.

In its style and arrangement the "Guide" is thoroughly practical. There are two divisions—an alphabetical list and a classified

list. The former, which is the main entry record, is alphabetical by first word of title, or by name of society in the case of transactions and similar publications. Besides name of publication there is given date of first issue, frequency of issue (as weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.), publishers' name and address, and subscription price. In the second division brief titles are arranged alphabetically under class headings. It has been the aim to make the list as comprehensive as possible, and the lines of exclusion are not rigidly drawn—so that some titles (such as the "Tribune index," "Foolish almanac," etc.) are given that seem rather outside the field; but this is a yielding in the right direction. On the other hand, there are omissions less easily accounted for. Thus, the *Book of the Royal Blue* is given, while the *Four-track News* does not appear; the "Girls Friendly Kalendar" (which is not a periodical, but a wall calendar) is listed, but there are no entries for the *Girls Friendly Magazine* (monthly), or the *Girls Friendly Society's Associate's Record* (monthly); several more or less familiar religious periodicals are lacking; and among the library periodicals, *Book-buyer*, *Literary Life* and *Literary Collector* are recorded, though these have all been discontinued for some time. The monthly bulletins of libraries and library commissions are included, to some extent; but it is not easy to see on what principle selection has been made, for the Salem, Springfield and other well-known bulletins are conspicuous by their absence and others which are little more than leaflets are given. It is also curious to note that the Cincinnati Public Library's "Annual list of books added" is included, though the similar list of the Boston Public Library does not appear. The whole division of library publications needs a thorough revision and systematization. A somewhat cursory examination reveals numerous errors, typographical and otherwise. Thus the Pasadena Public Library *Bulletin* appears under P as published by the University Press of Sewanee, Tenn.; it has also another main entry in the M's, under "Monthly bulletin." In capitalization the usual library practice is followed, but the use of lower case seems carried too far when "America" appears *sans* capitals; and we confess to a slight repugnance to "baptist" and "methodist." A useful addition to the classified list would be indication of periodicals in other than the English language—as French, German, Swedish, and so on. There are many titles of such periodicals, but they appear only in alphabetic order in the main list and under various subject headings; a grouping under nationality would be extremely useful to the librarian who wishes, for instance, to supply newspapers or magazines for Polish, Italian or other foreign population. These criticisms are specific, but they are made with cordial recognition of the usefulness of the "Guide" and of the labor that

has gone to its preparation; and with the hope that they may be of service in improving it and making it a permanency.

SHARP, Katharine L. Illinois libraries. part 2: Public libraries (excepting Chicago). (University of Illinois studies, vol. 2, no. 3, January, 1907.) Urbana, University of Illinois, 1907. 148 p. O.

The first part of Miss Sharp's valuable monograph was published about a year ago (reviewed L. J., Jan., 1907, p. 37). It was devoted to a general survey of the Illinois library field, legislation, conditions, etc. The present volume is a series of historical sketches of the public libraries now existing in the state, arranged alphabetically under place, with cross references from special names. The sketches are compact, very few exceeding a page in length, but they present a large amount of historical and descriptive information. A third part of the work, devoted to historical sketches of college, school and special libraries, Chicago libraries, illustrations of buildings and a list of Illinois library publications, still remains unpublished, the manuscript being available for consultation at the Illinois State Library School. The two parts already issued, however, form an important contribution to library history, and set a standard that it is hoped may be reached for other states. An interesting and useful feature of the present record is the tabulated list of "Obsolete public libraries in Illinois." The work as a whole is a fitting crown to Miss Sharp's long service in behalf of library development in Illinois.

Library Economy and History

GENERAL

ABERDEEN PUBLIC LIBRARY. Special report on indicators, open access, and other methods of lending library work. Aberdeen, 1907. 30 p. O.

This report was prepared for consideration of a possible change in the methods of the Aberdeen library's lending department. It reviews the practice of British and American libraries as regards indicator systems, open access, and "safeguarded open access." The compiler seems personally to favor the indicator system used by the library, and the report concludes after much detail with the opinion that "so far as indicator systems are concerned, the Aberdeen system is for borrowers the best and most efficient in use in library work." Appended are extended tables summarizing British and American practice; it is curious that the selection of American libraries does not include any of the branches of the New York, Brooklyn, Cleveland or Pittsburgh public libraries, which would particularly illustrate free access methods.

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIANS. Transactions, ninth annual meeting, held at Boston, Mass., June 4-5, 1906. (*In Medical Library and Historical Journal*, March, 1907. p. 37-60.)

Bulletin de l'Association des Bibliothécaires Français for May-June (no. 3) contains M. Oursel's report on the condition of municipal libraries, presented to the association at its April meeting. He recommends a graded classification for municipal librarians, with promotion from one class to the next, and makes suggestions regarding appointment of librarians by mayors, and a more equitable system of taxation for library maintenance. There is a proposed scheme for a new graded classified service for university libraries, presented by M. Fécamp; and a report of the proceedings of the general meeting held April 7.

For Folke-og Barneboksamlinger, the new Norwegian library journal, in its second number, contains among other things the continuation of Mr. Fischer's interesting article on Norwegian public libraries; a second installment of Mr. Rolfsen's review of the excellent work done by the central board of school libraries; and an article on school libraries in foreign countries, by Mr. A. S. Steenberg, of Horsens. Some suggestions made by Mr. Nyhuus, of the Public Library of Christiania, with regard to the possibility of establishing a Norwegian library school, are politely referred to Utopia by Mr. Fischer, one of the editors.

GAYLEY, C. M. An account of the proceedings of the International Congress for the Reproduction of Manuscripts, Liège, Aug. 21-23, 1905. (*In Report of Commissioner of Education*, 1905, v. I. p. 131-142.)

An extended report, with text of resolutions, etc., of the meeting which was more briefly reported in L. J., 30:929 (December, 1905).

INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE. Bulletin, année 1907, fasc. 1-3. Bruxelles, 1907. 104 p.

Besides an extended illustrated report of the organization and development of the Institut, with a chronological record of the chief incidents connected therewith, there is an article on "A new form of book (le livre microphotographique)," by Robert Goldschmidt and Paul Otlet. The desiderata in bookmaking are set forth as: lightness, small size, uniform dimensions, durable material, moderate price, ease of preservation, convenience of use, and adaptability to continuous production. Photography is believed to offer the means of obtaining these advantages. Briefly the "microphotographic book" is to consist of microscopic photographs of text or manuscript,

which for reading purposes are submitted to a magnifying process, following out the idea of the cinematograph. It is estimated that by sufficiently reducing the photograph, 72 pages of text could be reproduced to cover one catalog card of standard size. Various devices for the magnifying apparatus are considered practicable, among them "a very simple apparatus, lighted by an electric lamp and furnished with magnifying glasses," which can be operated by the reader so as to bring the microphotographic pages successively into range of vision. This scheme, it is stated, was presented to the Congrès International de Documentation Photographique, at Marseilles last October, which passed a resolution inviting specialists to co-operate with the Institut in the solution of this problem.

Library Assistant for June has short articles on "Branch libraries," by H. G. Surtees; "Delivery stations," by W. C. Berwick Sayers; and "A public library book extension service," by S. J. Redgrave. It contains the 12th annual report of the Library Assistants' Association, recording a membership of 321, the organization of two branches (Yorkshire and Leeds, respectively), and interesting and well attended meetings.

Library Association Record for May has a short practical paper on "Lighting, heating and ventilating of libraries," by A. J. Philip; considerations on "The *raison d'être* of library lectures," by Charles F. Newcombe, which contains some excellent suggestions; and an outline of "A brief alphabetizing number," for small libraries, by James S. Stewart, who regards the Cutter, Brown and Jast author-mark schemes as too minute for small library use. There is a report of the conference on net books, held Feb. 27. In the June number announcement is made of a department of "Current views," to contain "comments on passing events affecting libraries or of interest to those concerned in library work." This is evidently the result of recent criticisms of both the L. A. U. K. and the *Record*. Half a dozen such comments are given, among them notice that the Association has decided to form a "press gang" to reply to attacks on libraries appearing in the public press. The articles in this number are: "The library of the Library Association," by E. Wyndham Hulme; "The Thomas Greenwood library for librarians at Manchester," by W. E. A. Axon; "Dewey expanded," by H. V. Hopwood.

Library World and Book Selector for June has short articles: "To popularize reference libraries," by Arthur J. Hawkes; and "Unfrequented paths in classification," by Manor G. North. There is a brief rejoinder and a number of communications elicited by the article on "Women in libraries" in the April issue.

The Very Small Library Magazine is a

little eight-page monthly (50 c. per year) established last October by Charles Carroll Brooks, 149 Third avenue, New York City, and published in the interests of its founder's system of small libraries. It is intended to place these, under the charge of volunteer librarians, in small hamlets in every county in every state. There are now seven such libraries, the first having been founded with 38 books in Silver Grove, near Harper's Ferry, W. Va.; the others are in Annville, Westchester county, N. Y.; Continentalville Valley, Putnam county, N. Y.; Metropolitan Hospital, Blackwell's Island, New York; Putnam Valley, Oregon county, N. Y.; Ponca, Newton county, Ark.; Level Green, Rockcastle county, Ky. In his magazine Mr. Brooks appeals for help and for books; he asks for books discarded by public libraries, and for information from librarians as to where and how they may be obtained.

Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen for June contains comment on an unknown manuscript of the so-called "Biblia pauperum," by J. Lutz; and notes on the materials for the history of printing at Constantinople, by Victor Chauvin. The department of reviews is unusually full.

LOCAL

Atlanta (Ga.) University L. The library issues the first number of a *Bulletin*, for May, 1907. Besides a finding list of accessions it contains reports of the library and its various departments, and note of the Colored Public Library of Savannah, Ga. Miss Lane, the librarian, reports—for the school year September, 1906, to May, 1907—additions of 469 v., making a total of 12,789, and a circulation of 3045 v. during the seven months. There is also a sketch of the history of the library, which was established in its present \$25,000 Carnegie building in January, 1906. There is a travelling library department, which is intended to reach the schools taught by graduates of the university and supply them with books suited to their needs; and there is a "picture room," in which art exhibits are arranged.

Bradford, Pa. Carnegie P. L. (17th rpt. — year ending Feb. 28, 1907.) Added 1321; total 12,329. Issued, home use 81,260 (fict. .6294 per cent.; juv. fict. .1852 per cent.) New registration 827; total registration 9735. Receipts \$7455.63; expenses \$5009.16 (books \$1423.92, periodicals \$167.65, binding \$261.39, salaries \$2008.35, light and fuel \$311.49.)

There is a slight increase in circulation, but the greatest growth has been in the reference department.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) F. P. L. (23d and 24th rpts. — two years ending Jan. 1, 1906.) Added 1341; total 26,397. Issued, home use, 1904, 64,035; 1905, 65,848 (fict. 61.5 per cent.). Cards in force 5029.

This report is largely commemorative of the handsome Carnegie building which was

dedicated on Sept. 12, 1905. An illustration of the building is given, as are the addresses and proceedings at the dedication exercises, and a description of the interior of the building, all making up the trustees' report. The librarian's report is a brief summary of the work of the two years.

Dallas (Tex.) P. L. (6th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1907; in local press.) Added 1532; total 21,532. Issued, home use 79,572. New registration 1791; active cardholders (estimated) 7500.

An additional stack capable of holding 1000 volumes has been placed in the stack room, and a small oak case for 100 volumes in the delivery hall. This small case is kept filled with attractive-looking books from some one class, an entire change being made the first of every month. More books are needed in the children's room, where net additions for the year were only 70 v., as 159 were withdrawn from circulation.

Danville, Pa. Carnegie F. L. (4th rpt.—year ending April 30, 1907; in local press.) Added 616; total 5566. Issued, home use 38,931 (fict. .71 per cent.) New registration 965; total registration 2638.

"The library lends four books a year to each inhabitant, or circulated each year seven times the number of volumes in its collection of books." Sunday opening was in force from October to May, but showed a decrease of 33 per cent. in attendance from the previous year; the chief use made of the library in this way is by children, who come regularly during the week, and it is regretted that so few men avail themselves of the privilege.

East Orange (N. J.) F. P. L. (4th rpt., 1906.) Added 2861; total 22,324. Issued, home use, adult 127,055; juv. 22,039. New registration 1780; total registration 10,525. Receipts \$12,183.64; expenses \$11,036.23.

The title-page gives this as the third annual report, but this is apparently an error. The library reaches a large proportion of the city's 25,000 inhabitants. There are travelling libraries in five fire engine houses and one police station, and books are supplied to many schools, clubs, societies and other bodies. All but three or four of the 128 teachers in the public schools are book borrowers. In the assembly-room 18 organizations have held 52 meetings, with a total attendance of 2373 persons. A local history collection has been started and a beginning has been made toward a collection of state, county, and town histories, maps, etc. A gift of \$20,000 has been accepted from Mr. Carnegie for two branch library buildings, which will be built and ready for use before the end of 1907.

Eliot, Me. William Fogg L. The attractive library building given by the late Dr. John S. H. Fogg, of Boston, as a memorial to his father, was dedicated on May 2. The struc-

ture is built of rubble-stone and is beautifully situated on rising ground in a park of 16 acres, overlooking the Fogg homestead. The entire estate was bequeathed to the town by Dr. Fogg, who also provided that his valuable collection of autographs should be sold to provide funds for erecting a library building, this bequest to become operative on the death of his widow. Two years ago the town came into possession of the property, amounting to nearly \$50,000, of which but \$10,000 was available for building purposes, the balance being devoted to maintenance. The building provides for children's room, reading and delivery rooms, librarian's office, a meeting hall and a stack room with capacity for 16,000 v., all appropriately and artistically equipped. It houses, besides the regular collection, Dr. Fogg's own fine private library, comprising some 2500 volumes devoted to history, and other valuable works. At the dedication exercises the chief address was by Hon. James P. Baxter, of Portland, president of the Maine Historical Society, who spoke on "The history of books and printing and the art of bookmaking."

Fort Worth, Tex. Carnegie P. L. (6th rpt.—year ending March 1, 1907; typewritten copy.) Added 1375; total 15,505 v., 2716 pm. Issued, home use 64,340 (fict. 69.15 per cent.) New registration 1877; total registration 14,979.

Reference use has so increased that overcrowding in this department is now a serious matter, and means for its enlargement must be speedily found. From the children's room books are circulated in four of the city schools, and it is desired that this service should be extended to all schools. More books, however, are greatly needed.

Since this report was written Fort Worth has adopted the commission form of government. Under the new charter the library is provided for by a special tax of .02 mills, which will give it an income of \$6000 next year and will, as the town grows, provide for the future growth of the library.

Furman University, Greenville, S. C. The handsome Carnegie library building was opened to the public on June 5, with simple exercises.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. Hon. John Patton, president of the library board, died of heart failure at his home in Grand Rapids, on May 24, after an illness lasting four months. Mr. Patton's death is a great loss, not only to the library, but to the library interests of the state. Born in Pennsylvania, in 1850, he had been a resident of Grand Rapids since 1878, and soon became prominent in state politics. He served as United States senator from Michigan during 1894. In 1903 he was elected a member of the new board of library commissioners, to which he was re-elected for five years in

April, 1907. On the organization of the new board in 1903, he was elected its president, and was annually re-elected every year since. His interest in the library did not begin, however, with his election as a member of the board. He conducted a correspondence with Mr. Andrew Carnegie which led to the offer from him of \$150,000 for a library building for this city at the same time that Mr. Ryerson made his offer. Mr. Carnegie withdrew to permit Mr. Ryerson to have the honor of erecting the library building for his native city. At the laying of the cornerstone of the Ryerson Public Library building on July 4, 1902, Mr. Patton delivered the principal address. His ideas of the duties and functions of a library trustee were clearly set forth in the paper which he delivered at the meeting of the Michigan Library Association at Battle Creek, in June, 1906, published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, September, 1906.

Lexington (Ky.) P. L. (7th rpt.—year ending Jan. 1, 1907.) Added "nearly 1000"; total "between 22,000 and 24,000 v." Issued, home use "nearly 52,000"; 1877 v. were circulated among the schools for supplementary reading. Cards in use 4000.

This is the second report made from the Carnegie building. As may be observed, it is extremely vague in its statistical details and would be improved by more definite statement of facts. It is stated that the debt, which has been a burden for several years, is now paid off, and the way seems clear to greater activity. Attendance at the children's department has largely increased; a story hour, held every Saturday morning, has proved very popular and useful. The story tellers have been mainly teachers from the public and private schools, who have willingly given their services. The colored people's reading room, situated on the first floor, is one of the most pleasant rooms in the building. "But it is used very little"; and it is believed that a colored branch library would be more satisfactory. Sunday opening was begun in June, 1906; the use is small, but slowly increasing.

Medford (Mass.) P. L. (51st rpt., 1906.) Added 2183; total 31,473. Issued, home use 95,718 (fict. 57 per cent.), an increase of 14,796 over the preceding year. Total registration since 1903, 6034.

An analysis of the registration was made according to city wards, which shows interesting inequalities in the extent the library reaches the various sections. From the children's room books were sent to 83 school-rooms, and exchanged every six weeks. Five Sunday-schools receive selections of 100 books each, exchangeable at will.

New Bedford (Mass.) F. P. L. (55th rpt., 1906.) Added 4001 (642 gifts); total 96,290. Issued, home use 116,778 (fict. 64.6 per cent.;

foreign fict. 2.7 per cent.) New cards issued 1773.

A beginning has been made in loaning books to Sunday-school libraries and notices were sent to all school teachers announcing the library's willingness to furnish reading lists for use in school work. A separate children's room is much needed. "A steady demand may be noted for our bulletins, especially that on the cotton industry, which has been circulated widely in this country and abroad."

New Jersey State L. On June 10 the governor signed the bill increasing the salary of the state librarian from \$2000 to \$3000 a year.

New York P. L. On June 26 opening exercises were held for the fourth Carnegie branch library to be established in Staten Island. This, which is situated at Central avenue and Hyatt street, St. George, immediately adjoining the new municipal building, is the largest of the four and, in some respects, the most interesting of all the Carnegie buildings that have been erected by the New York Public Library. It is situated on a steep hillside, with a magnificent view of the bay, and the surrounding grounds, which are somewhat more extensive than usual in the case of a library building, are handsomely terraced and planted with evergreens and flowering shrubs. The building has two main floors, each of which is provided with an entrance on the street level owing to the situation of the building on the side of a hill. The lower floor, which is entered from the side facing the bay through the grounds, is devoted to the department of circulation, the adults being given the west half of the building and the children the east. The children's quarters include a cozy study room. The upper floor is devoted to the general reading room, and arrangements have also been made to use this as a public assembly room in the evenings, if this should be desired. The roof is open to the rafters. The whole building is lighted by electricity and heated by hot water, and is furnished with an automatic electric book lift. Living quarters are provided for the janitor, who will reside in the building, and there are also work rooms, toilet rooms, and retiring and lunch rooms for the staff. Provision has also been made for the storage of a considerable number of books belonging to the travelling library department, which will have its Staten Island branch office in this building. From this department collections of books are sent to schools, associations and clubs of all sorts; it is expected that the establishing of a branch office at Staten Island will facilitate furnishing books to many rural districts on the island which have hitherto been without library service.

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. The interest in the music collection which was placed in the

reading room April 15 is steadily increasing. During May 319 volumes circulated. The collection covers 350 titles, and contains the piano and vocal scores of 50 operas. With the exception of the opera scores, which are limited to seven days, the music may be kept for one month. In connection with the music department the library has begun a collection of musical literature clipped from musical magazines. No musical magazines are included in the indexes to periodicals, and it is difficult to find satisfactory references about living musicians. It is hoped that the material thus collected will in time be of value and supplement the small amount found in musical dictionaries.

Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. (51st rpt., 1906.) Added 1097; total 42,826. Issued, home use 53,129. Registration 5695. Receipts \$3913.95; expenses \$4163.31.

Separate children's room and reference room are needed.

Ottumwa (Ia.) P. L. (4th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1906.) Added 3018; total 20,808. Issued, home use 73,106 (fict. 59 per cent.), of which 20,449 were circulated through outside agencies; the circulation to children was 29 per cent. New registration 972; total cards in use 7037, "an average of one library card-holder to every three residents." Receipts \$5510.62; expenses \$5307.03 (salaries \$2679.56, books \$1579.16, binding \$493.09, periodicals \$121.25).

"We expect an increased reading of classed books from our rearrangement of fiction. In December the classed books were arranged so as to leave the third shelf from the top vacant all through the stack room. On this shelf the fiction was placed, running from A to Z, under the last name of the author. The books most sought are thus on a line with the eye and in easier reach for both patrons and staff. People are distributed more evenly in the busy hours, all through the stack room, rather than being congested between a few stacks. The new arrangement is conducive to more reading of the classed books arranged above and below the fiction."

The children's room, installed in spacious new quarters, has been increasingly popular. Besides periodicals the reading tables contain puzzle maps and pictures; there are also 12 stereoscopes with over 700 views, among them a set of 100 views illustrating Jane Andrews' "Seven little sisters." "A different set of pictures is put on the tables each week and offers an attraction which draws like a magnet."

The library has 15 sub-stations in outlying districts and public schools; "we expect to work toward department stores and factories largely in the coming year." The organization of a public library in the adjacent town of Eldon is largely due to the influence of the

Ottumwa library and the aid given by Miss Downey, the librarian.

Library instruction to the freshman class of the high school was a feature of the year's work.

The long-needed open shelf room has been nearly completed, and will be opened in the autumn. It will contain about 4000 v., which will be changed from time to time. It is hoped that the increased appropriation granted by the city will permit extension of the library's work, especially in the schools.

Paterson (N. J.) F. P. L. (22d rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, 1907.) Added 3156; total 30,419. Issued, home use 117,408 (fict. 68.7 per cent.). New registration 3369; cards in use 11,094. Receipts \$19,421; expenses (exclusive of building fund) \$18,616.19.

"During the year the shelf-lists of the entire library have been read, and 366 volumes are now missing. Of these 229 appear to have been lost from the children's room. This number is much larger than it should be, and, of course, indicates that this room needs very close watching. This is, however, the only complete reading of the shelves of the library that has been made since the fire. The result, therefore, shows the losses in a period of nearly five years."

Mr. Winchester's recommendations for increasing the library's efficiency are: "establish branches; try the experiment of a pay collection of popular books in the central library; abolish the age limit in the children's library; publish a monthly bulletin of current additions; publish a graded reading list for children; publish lists of special classes of books, as music, education, silk and other industries; add largely to our literature in foreign languages, placing many of these books in the branches — also foreign periodicals; invite more frequent use of the assembly room; have a loan exhibition of fine arts and other exhibitions, such as material relating to the history of Paterson, these exhibitions to be centered in the assembly room."

Philadelphia F. L. The Thomas Holme branch library building, at Frankford avenue and Hartel street, was formally opened on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 26. On Monday evening, June 24, the Germantown branch library building, at Vernon Park, was opened.

Portland (Ore.) L. Assoc. (43d rpt. — year ending Dec. 27, 1906.) Added 7807; total 60,645. Issued, home use 217,743, of which 46,265 were drawn by children, 13,356 through the stations, and 13,609 through the county schools. New registration 5944; total registration 15,210. Attendance in ref. dept. 33,000.

A businesslike report of steadily growing work. The report covers the first year that the library has occupied its entire building, and it records a general increase of use in every department; the home use was 23 per

cent. larger than the year before. Much of the increase is due to special efforts to bring the resources of the library before the public. "Lists of new books have been published in the daily press, notices of books received mailed to those specially interested, selected lists on specified subjects sent to clubs, business houses, lectures, factories, teachers, etc., and the head of the department has made personal visits to the schools, to the department stores, to the telegraph and messenger offices and similar places where groups of young people could be reached. In an open shelf library, good books are often neglected or forgotten because of the very multitude. For this reason groups of books from time to time have been taken from the shelves and placed where they would be easy of access, and attention called to them by bulletin or list."

An experiment toward an "intermediate department" has been made, in a collection of books of all classes suitable for young people just transferred to the main library from the children's room. When the children are transferred they are met by the head of the circulating department, who explains the arrangement of the room, the use of the catalogs, and introduces them to these special shelves.

The inventory revealed 357 v. missing from the shelves, none of particular value. This brings up the question of closing the shelves to the public, but it is felt that this is undesirable on the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number, and that free access to the books greatly increases the library's usefulness.

In the reference department 24 lectures were given to entering classes in the high school, with an attendance of 588. A round table for teachers for discussion of library methods was instituted in December, and weekly meetings were held through the winter. Special efforts are made to extend and make more useful the library's collection of technical works, trade catalogs, etc. Exhibits have been held illustrating "Illumination" and "Development of the book." An effort to initiate work for the blind was begun, and later turned over to the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

In the children's room the circulation showed an increase of 5600; the story hour has been continued and the annual Christmas exhibit was held. Class room libraries were sent to eight of the city schools, and the sending of these libraries to county schools was continued.

The extension work done in sending books to stations in the county has been organized as a "county department," and the change has proved desirable. The circulation of books from the stations increased from 3955 to 13,358; "the head of the department made 86 visits in all, covering the entire county, visiting every station several times and making

acquaintance with the families living in every section. The volunteer service at the stations has been supplemented as far as possible by these visits when informal talks on books and on reading in general were given whenever opportunity afforded, and by annotated lists distributed with the new books." Special collections for farmers have been prepared, and brought to the attention of the various granges.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. The library has just finished its competition for the choice of an architect of its new central building. Out of nine invited competitors Cass Gilbert, of New York, was judged to have submitted the most worthy design, and he was therefore appointed architect by the library board. The competitors were: From New York, Cass Gilbert, Carrere & Hastings, Palmer & Hornbostel, Albert R. Ross; from St. Louis, Barnett, Haynes & Barnett, Eames & Young, William B. Ittner, T. C. Link, Mauran, Russell & Garden.

The plans for the building were made public on June 18. They provide for a two-story building, with a high basement. There will be a large open court in the interior, providing ample light and ventilation. The stack room will have seven stories, and a capacity of over 200,000 v. The cost of the building is limited to \$1,200,000, of which amount \$500,000 is provided by Mr. Carnegie.

San Diego (Cal.) P. L. In the summary of the library's 1906 report in June L. J. the per cent. of fiction was given as .072. This is an error, and should be corrected to read .63 per cent.

Somerville (Mass.) P. L. (34th rpt., 1906.) Added 5980; total 75,720. Issued, home use 410,538 (fict. 69% per cent.). New cards issued 3364. Receipts \$19,733.07; expenses \$19,726.08 (salaries \$9547.87, books and periodicals \$6362.04, binding \$2053.05, agencies \$524.61).

In the school department there are 7111 v., and the circulation from the school libraries was 107,797; 27 sets of stereoscopic views were also used in 61 schoolrooms. The reference and art department held 14 art exhibitions; it suffers more from overcrowding than any other department. There are five agencies in operation, located in shops, but it is believed that this system has been outgrown in at least one section of the city and should be replaced by a branch under trained supervision. Books are sent to a large number of Sunday-schools, police station, hospital, etc. On 323 vacation cards 1913 v. were issued. By the home delivery service 1446 v. were distributed.

It is intended that a careful examination shall be made of many departments of the library, with a view to withdrawing from the general collection books that have become obsolete. "These books should not be dis-

carded; and I think, upon mature reflection, that they should not be sequestered from the general view or the general access of the public. They should be put in ranges by themselves, open to general access; but these ranges should be plainly labeled "obsolete books," and bear a placard stating that they have been withdrawn from the general stock of books because they are believed to be outdated, and consequently untrustworthy in the light of more recent knowledge."

"Early in the coming year each member of the staff will be asked to make a specialty of some one department of the library, and to become acquainted to as thorough an extent as possible with the bibliography of that department. Of course it cannot be expected that busy members of the staff can become thorough students in any one of the classes of the Dewey classification. Such an expectation would be absurd, even if it were directed toward a college professor. But each member of the staff will be expected to know in a general way the books that are in the library relating to her specialty, and to understand something of the relative value of the books. The best books on each specialty that are not in the library will be looked up; and thus it is hoped deficiencies may be noted and supplied."

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. The library has issued an attractive pamphlet devoted to "Opening of the Seattle Public Library building," and containing proceedings of the dedicatory exercises held Dec. 19, 1906. There are also fine illustrations of the exterior of the building and of the delivery room.

Syracuse (N. Y.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1906. Added 4604; total 71,532. Issued, home use 160,222, an increase of 16 per cent. over the previous year. Receipts \$38,487.50; expenses \$38,487.50 (salaries \$15,720.20, books \$6316.26, serials \$1996.78, binding \$1566.90, heat \$2278.06, light \$2338).)

"The new building is rapidly becoming the home of the library. The people who visit it are getting familiar with the place and with the improved conveniences which it offers. Gradually the little changes which were needed in the building and in the methods of work which it opens for people are becoming established and visitors are feeling the benefit which the place affords."

The catalog department has carried through the important work of arranging and sorting the collection of government documents, which "had been stored for years in several different but all equally inaccessible places. When we moved into our new building the documents were placed on the shelves of the second and third floors of the stack. Tumbled in, would better express the condition. No two books of a set were together, and none of them had been dusted for years. Of this material 2664 volumes have been shelf-listed

and cataloged, exclusive of the agricultural reports, for which we have the cards from that department. The Library of Congress cards have been a great help in this work."

The department of local and family history has been strengthened and its use constantly increases. It is desired to include in this collection a complete set of the official publications of the city and county and the help of citizens is requested to this end.

Trinity College, Hartford, Ct. The library was somewhat damaged on May 22 by fire, which broke out in Seabury Hall, the main dormitory of the college. In all about 450 books were injured, at an estimated cost for replacement of about \$500. The damage done to the building was adjusted at a little over \$1500.

University of Washington L., Seattle. Additions to the library staff were made this year in the appointment of Miss Frances S. C. James as cataloger and Miss Josephine Meissner as assistant. Miss James received her A. B. and M. A. degrees at the University of Wisconsin and had been on the cataloging staff of the Wisconsin State Historical Society for the past six years. Miss Meissner had for the past year been librarian of the Peru (Neb.) Normal School.

Versailles, Ky., Helm Memorial L. The library building, which was completed only a year and a half ago, was completely destroyed by fire on the night of June 12. The library was a gift to the community from the late Miss Margaret Logan, as a memorial to her deceased nephew, Logan Helm. The loss on building is stated as \$16,000, insurance \$10,500; on furniture and books, \$4,000, insurance, \$2,000.

Waterbury, Ct., Silas Bronson L. (37th rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1906.) Added 5965; total 69,664. Issued, home use 140,561 (fact. 73.62 per cent.), of which 28,871 were drawn through the school libraries, and 38,220 through the children's room. Receipts \$25,589.79; expenses \$22,098.73.

The gift of \$5000 from the city has made possible extension of the system of school deposit libraries, which now contain 4241 v., distributed through 11 schools. "In order that our increasing knowledge of children's books may be more widely useful, we have begun a reference collection of the best books, which will be available for consultation, not only by teachers, but by mothers who realize the importance of guiding the reading of the little ones under their charge. There is also a special collection of the fairy tales, hero stories, and myths suggested in Bryant's 'How to tell stories to children,' for reading aloud at home, or in the primary grades of the schools."

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Osterhout F. L. (18th

rpt., 1906.) Added 2378; total 38,156. Issued, home use 103,575 (act. 66.26 per cent.), of which 39,243 were from the children's room. Total registration 9774. "Many illustrated juvenile books that have proved to be past binding or repairing have been utilized for scrap books, or the pictures mounted on water color paper, and very interesting picture books made; the most successful ones having been made from books illustrated by Caldecott and Kate Greenaway." A story hour was begun in November and continued successfully during two weeks of December; there was an attendance of 86 at the three meetings. A Christmas tree was displayed as usual through Christmas week, and at this season the children's librarian, with the aid of other assistants, made a dozen or more scrap-books, and sent them to the Children's Home as a gift from the library. "These books were made of a collection of pictures which had been saved and cut from books unfit for further use. The pictures were pasted on mounting paper of different colors and tied with ribbon."

The privileges of the library are now extended to all residents of the county. Work is soon to begin on an extension to the building, which will accommodate a three story stack (40,000 v.), a catalog room and a repair room.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (47th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1906.) Added 7255; total 157,546, of which 70,006 are in the circulating department. Issued, home use 263,191 (from children's dept. 89,310); ref. use 104,253, school use 20,036. New registration 4724; cards in use 24,271. Receipts \$45,822.29; expenses \$44,607.58 (books \$9079.96, binding \$3023.69, salaries \$19,118.30, gas \$1058.82, coal \$1242.84, delivery stations \$884.34).

The chief incident of the year was the installation of an improved lighting plant, and it is recommended that considerable repairing and decorating work should also be undertaken. There was a gain of 29,727 v. in the use of the library (reference and circulating), fairly well distributed through the different departments. More books are greatly needed in the children's department, in which the Newark charging system has been installed. The very large use made of the reference department is regarded as reason for pride, and it is pointed out that from the valuable Green collection only four books were stolen during the year. Several exhibitions were held, and a large number of clubs and classes use the library regularly for purposes of study. There are eight delivery stations in operation, and Mr. Green suggests that this delivery service be extended to include sending and calling for books for private schools, hospitals, engine house, Sunday schools, and similar institutions. Besides Mr. Green's report there are reports from the heads of the various departments.

FOREIGN

Bodleian L., Oxford. The annual report of the Bodleian for 1906 is given in the *Oxford University Gazette* for May 14. It records accessions of 77,637 printed and manuscript items, of which 13,465 were received by gift or exchange, 53,163 under the copyright act, and 11,009 by purchase. This total is the second highest on record.

The episode regarding the original Bodleian first folio Shakespeare is duly reported. "In 1623 or 1624 the Company of Stationers sent to the Bodleian in sheets a copy of the newly published first collected edition of Shakespeare's works. They did so under an agreement made with them by Sir Thomas Bodley in 1610-11. In those days there was no copyright act, so that the copy sent by the company to the Bodleian may be said to be the one most authentic copy existing. In Mr. Madan's words, 'It is the only one which can be regarded as a standard exemplar.' It was the copy selected by the publisher for permanent preservation." The Bodleian sent the sheets on Feb. 17, 1624, to the Oxford binder, William Wildgoose, and on its return the book was duly chained on the shelves, where it remained till 1664. It appears in the supplementary catalog of 1635, but not in the catalog of 1674.

"The original Bodleian statute, which was then in force, following in this particular the draft instructions of Sir Thomas Bodley, directed the curators to exchange books for others of a better edition, and to discard from the library volumes which were 'superfluous.' There can be little doubt that this rule was the cause of the disappearance of the first folio. It was most probably got rid of between September, 1663, and September, 1664, among a number of 'superfluous' library books sold by order of the curators for which an Oxford bookseller, Richard Davis, paid the library £24. For in 1664 there had come into the library the second issue of the *Third Folio*, containing seven additional plays — though it is now admitted that six of these are not Shakespeare's, and that of the seventh (*Pericles*) he only wrote part.

"The subsequent history of the First Folio thus thrown out as 'superfluous' is unknown till about the middle of the 18th century. Apparently at some time before 1759 it was acquired by Mr. Richard Turbutt, of Ogston Hall, Derbyshire, from whom it descended to his great-great-grandson, Mr. W. G. Turbutt." On Jan. 25, 1905, Mr. Turbutt's grandson, Mr. G. M. R. Turbutt, brought the book to Mr. Madan, of the Bodleian staff, to ask his advice about repairing it. It was recognized as in old Oxford binding, and in a few minutes was proved to be the old Bodleian copy. The librarian proposed to Mr. Turbutt that the copy should be valued and repurchased for the Bodleian by subscription, but before a decision was made an offer of £3000 for it

was made by an American collector. Mr. Turbutt gave the Bodleian the refusal of the copy at this price and allowed five months in which the amount should be raised. The sum was secured by public subscription within three days of the close of the allotted term, Mr. Turbutt himself contributing £200. Subscriptions were received or offered from 823 persons.

Croydon (Eng.) P. Ls. (18th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1907.) Added 5693; total 59,687. Issued, home use 441,009, not including 85,546 v. circulated through the school libraries. The home use showed a decrease of 5901 v. from the preceding year, accounted for by the closing of the libraries for redecoration; the school library circulation showed an increase of 15,281. From the reference library 55,732 v. were issued. Total no. borrowers 13,247. The fiction percentage has dropped now to 56.2 per cent., the lowest on record in Croydon. It is stated that this satisfactory result is not an effect of reducing the supply, but of increasing public desire for better books; although the line is drawn against really poor fiction, the committee "have recognized that they have many tastes to cater for, and that by limiting the appeal of the library to those alone who can enjoy the best they are excluding the larger public whose tastes are in a less formed condition, thereby defeating one of the very aims of the public library."

A feature was the introduction of object lessons to school children in the use of the libraries. Parties of about 25 children are brought to the libraries and a senior member of the staff explains by means of plans the arrangement of the shelves, the card catalogs and the classification terminology are briefly explained, and the book-numbers are analyzed. After a tour of the shelves, the children each receive a card with instructions to find three of the books listed on it. This part of the lesson is described as "having all the excitement of a game," and very few children fail to find all the books. A specimen card is printed. In this connection it is noted that the scheme "has been approved by the Education Committee and His Majesty's Inspector, who has permitted the visits to be made in school time." The "library talks" both to children and to adults have been more successful than ever, the accommodation being invariably strained to the utmost. Three series attended by 7552 children, and three series attended by 3045 adults were given.

For the development of useful and pleasant relations among the library force a "staff guild," of which the chairman of the libraries committee is president and the chief librarian vice-president, was formed in May, 1906. It has led to the organization of a cricket club, reading circles and demonstrations in library economy. Classes in English literature, classification, and Latin were held during the

year. The successes of the staff at the Library Association examinations are emphasized; in 1905-06 the total of 14 passes included two "honors" and five "with merit," a record which the committee think "unapproached by that of any other library in the kingdom." It is pleasant to note the liberal policy of the libraries committee in paying the fees and fares of such members of the staff as desire to attend the classes at the London School of Economics, and who the chief librarian thinks will benefit by them. There are 26 appendixes, including diagrams of issues and fiction percentages, queries addressed to the libraries, Mr. Jast's report on the Library Association Conference, and—an interesting feature—a list of bibliographical articles contributed to the local press by members of the staff.

Gifts and Bequests

Almond, N. Y. By the will of the late Miss Inez De Bow, of Almond, \$1000 is bequeathed to the building fund of the local Twentieth Century Free Library Club.

Emporia, Kan. At a meeting of the board of education on June 3 it was announced that Mrs. Preston B. Plumb, widow of the late Senator Plumb, had offered to give the city \$5000 for the establishment of a free library.

Hasleton (Pa.) P. L. Assoc. On May 17, at a special meeting of the library directors, it was announced that plans had been drawn for a handsome library building, to be given to the association by John Markle, of Jeddo, as a memorial to his father, the late George B. Markle.

Wellesley (Mass.) College L. At the commencement exercises on June 25 announcement was made of a gift of not less than \$75,000 from the estate of the late John A. Beebe, which enables the college to receive the proffered Carnegie fund of \$125,000 for a library building. The Beebe gift brings the sum raised by the college to \$125,000, as required by Mr. Carnegie.

Librarians

BISCOE, Miss Ellen D., graduate of the New York State Library School, 1896, has been appointed librarian of the State Normal School Library, Cedar Falls, Ia. For the past year Miss Biscoe has been instructor in the Drexel Institute Library School.

CRUNDEN, Frederick M. All A. L. A. members will be delighted to learn that their senior ex-president, F. M. Crunden, has been rapidly gaining in health since reaching Lake Placid, June 8. For the first time in a year he is able to work over library plans and other ques-

tions with old-time interest. He has already taken several three-mile walks and every one comments on his fast returning vigor.

DALTON, Miss Mary Louise, librarian of the Missouri Historical Society, died at her home in St. Louis, on June 13, after a brief illness. Miss Dalton was born at Wentzville, Mo., April 1, 1860, and studied at St. Charles College, St. Charles, Mo., from which she was graduated in 1887. For several years she was engaged in business as a stenographer in New York, but later came to St. Louis and for five years was well known in newspaper work. She also did other literary work, specializing in genealogy and state history. Following her appointment as librarian of the Missouri Historical Society, in 1903, she became deeply interested in Missouri history, and acquired a reputation as an authority upon matters relating to the early Spanish and French settlement of St. Louis and the surrounding country. She prepared the interesting exhibit of the society shown at the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. Miss Dalton became a member of the American Library Association at its St. Louis Conference, in 1904; she was an active member of the D. A. R. and the Daughters of the United Confederacy.

GROTH, Mrs. Mary Stillman, died at her home in Milwaukee, Wis., on June 23. Mrs. Groth had been for eight years superintendent of circulation in the Milwaukee Public Library, previous to her marriage to August Groth two years ago.

HENDERSON, Miss Maude R., Armour Institute, class of '06, was married at Lexington, Ky., on June 25, to Nelson L. Robinson. Miss Henderson had been employed in the New York Public Library since 1896, and during the greater part of that time was in charge of the subject headings work on the public catalog.

HENRY, Miss Eugenia M., B.L.S. New York State Library School, 1906, has resigned her position as assistant in Clark University Library to become librarian of the Attleboro (Mass.) Public Library.

JONES-MOORE, Miss Eyva L. Moore, Armour Institute, class of '04, librarian of the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, was married at Evanston, Ill., on June 1, to Henry P. Jones, of Oak Park. Miss Moore had been librarian of the Oak Park Library (formerly the Scoville Institute Library) since 1899, when she succeeded Miss Cornelia Marvin. After her graduation from the Armour Institute library course she was engaged to organize the Withers Library, Bloomington, Ill., of which she was appointed librarian in July, 1895; this position she held until her appointment to Oak Park. Her work both at Bloomington and Oak Park was thoroughly success-

ful, and she has been actively interested in library affairs in Illinois, having been long a member and for several years secretary of the Illinois Library Association, and a member of the American Library Association since 1895.

KENNEDY, John P., state librarian of Virginia, resigned that position on July 6, and has been succeeded by Henry R. McIlvaine, of Hampden-Sidney College, Virginia.

KIMBALL, Miss Florence B., New York State Library School, 1906-7, will classify and catalog the Groton (Mass.) Public Library during the summer.

LAYMAN, Joseph D., for 19 years assistant librarian in the University of California Library, Berkeley, has been appointed librarian of the University of Nevada, Reno. Mr. Layman joined the staff of the University of California Library in July, 1888, soon after his graduation from that university.

MEISSNER, George, chief of the catalog department of the New York Public Library (Reference Department), died on June 24, 1907, after an illness of about a month. He was born in Munich on Nov. 23, 1858, and studied at the local gymnasium and university, where he received his degree. In the early 80's he came to this country and taught in various private schools and as tutor in private families. In December, 1891, he became an assistant in the then Astor Library, and at the time of staff reorganization after formation of the New York Public Library he was appointed chief of the catalog department, a position he continued to hold until his death. He was a man of wide learning, scholarly taste, and of a most attractive and lovable disposition.

PUTNAM, Herbert, Librarian of Congress, received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Yale University at its commencement exercises on June 26.

ST. JOHN-BRIGHAM, Miss Eleanor Brigham, who has been for nine years on the staff of the Hartford (Ct.) Public Library, and at the head of its boys' and girls' room since it was opened, was married on June 19 to Mr. Charles Herbert St. John.

WALLACE, Miss Anne, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta, Ga., has received a silver loving cup presented by subscription from her friends in the American Library Association, as a mark of their affectionate regard and appreciation of her services in the cause of library progress in the South.

WARD, Miss Annette P., Pratt Institute Library School, 1904, who during the past six months has organized the library of the Church of the Ascension, New York City, has been appointed to the staff of Columbia University Library.

Cataloging and Classification

BOLLETTINO DELLE OPERE MODERNE STRANIERE acquistate dalle biblioteche pubbliche governative del regno d'Italia. Anno 1906. Ser. 3, num. 9736-11,892; compilato dal Dott. Giuseppe Guli, sotto-bibliotecario Bibl. Naz. Cent. Vittorio Emanuele di Roma. Rome, Lib. E. Loescher & Co., 1907. 8°.

The annual compilation of the monthly bulletin of foreign books added to the Italian government libraries. The various libraries, each indicated by a separate letter or letters, send in titles of their accessions to the Victor Emmanuel Library, Rome, where the compilation of the list is carried on. Entries are grouped in main classes, but each entry is numbered consecutively, and this numbering is continued progressively through the volumes for a decennial period. At the close of that period an index for the ten years will be issued. The list does not record works over ten years old, separate parts of works, volumes of periodicals previously recorded, and unimportant pamphlets or like publications received by gift or exchange. For 1906 there are recorded 2157 new foreign works and 1880 works previously reported. The undertaking is an interesting effort in co-operative cataloging.

CARDS FOR BOOKS PRINTED IN AMERICA BEFORE 1801. Bulletin no. 20 of the Library of Congress Card Section (March 1, 1907) announces that the library will supply sets of cards for publications printed in America before 1801. About 1500 cards have now been printed for books, pamphlets and newspapers so designated. It is estimated that these cover not over one-third of such publications now in the collection of the Library of Congress, and that it will be five years or more before printed cards will have been issued for all of the remainder. Subscribers to these cards may also order, if desired, cards for either of the following: *a*, all books printed in Canada before 1801; *b*, all books printed in Mexico, South America and the West Indies before 1801. Subscriptions will be received either for full or partial sets. It is stated that since 1902 the library of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Ct., has been subscribing to one copy of each card printed by the Library of Congress for books, pamphlets and newspapers printed in America before 1801; but the present undertaking is chiefly due to the article by Mr. Felix Neumann, in *L. J.*, September, 1906 (p. 669-670). In this attention was called to the desirability of providing a printed record of publications in the Library of Congress printed in the United States prior to 1800, and it was recommended that in addition to the usual *L. C.* author card, two other sets of cards be printed

—one set constituting entries for such books under the name of the printer, the other entries for them under place of publication. In view of the fact that probably not over one-third of such publications in the Library of Congress have yet been cataloged by the printed cards it has been decided impracticable to issue at present the two special series of cards recommended by Mr. Neumann. Of the cards so far issued, however, four sets are included in the Library of Congress exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition, arranged 1, by author; 2, by printer; 3, by place; 4, by date—the same author entry card being used for each file. The issue of this special series of cards is an important step in recording and making known "the incunabula of America."

CINCINNATI PUBLIC LIBRARY. Annual list of books added, 1906. Cincinnati, published by the trustees, 1907. 6+104 p. Q.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, Card Section. Handbook of card distribution; with references to Bulletins 1-20. 2d ed. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1907. 76 p. O.

The regulations contained in this edition went into effect on June 1.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY. List of books added to the circulation department during the year ending April 1, 1907. New York, 1907. 8+80 p. O.

PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY. Finding list of music, June, 1907. [Peoria, 1907.] 10 p. O.
A classified list.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. Finding list for seminary libraries, 1907. Princeton, University Library Press, 1907. 6+365 p. Q.

A roughly printed linotype list, rather unpleasant to use on account of the small and blurred type, close lines and portentous call numbers. The entries are invariably compressed within a single line running across the narrow quarto page. The separate classed seminary lists are prefaced by a consolidated alphabetical author list of 153 pages. There are 11 seminary lists (Paleographic, Germanic, English, Historical, Political, Mathematical, Applied mathematics, Philosophical, Romance, Economic, Zoological), and for each an alphabetical list of class headings is provided, which in a measure will serve as a partial index to the general library classification, of which the complete index is in preparation for publication.

WALLASEY (Eng.) PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Handbook of information, and subject-index of books in the home reading departments. May 1, 1907. 28 p. O.

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- BENJAMIN,** Judah P. Butler, P. Judah P. Benjamin. (American crisis biographies.) Phil., George W. Jacobs & Co., [1907.] 459 p. D.
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With this the society "begins in a humble way the issue of a quarterly record of American bibliography." This first number covers 14 pages, and is creditable in material and in execution. Besides the short introductory, by W. C. Lane, in which co-operation of all members is asked, to make the record of value, there are departments of Notes and news, Americana, and a classed record of American bibliographical publications. The latter includes 51 titles, comprising various library catalogs and lists which seem rather arbitrarily selected. Several interesting bibliographies in preparation are noted. The *Bulletin* is edited by W. D. Johnston, T. F. Currier, and Victor H. Paltsits.
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The eighth of these annual summaries of educational literature.
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- FLAGS.** Special reading lists: Flags. (*In Salem Public Library Bulletin*, June, p. 8.)
- FRENCH LITERATURE.** Catalogue générale de la librairie française. Tome 17 (Table des matières des Tomes 14 et 15, 1891-1899); rédigé par D. Jordell. L-Z. Paris, Librairie Nilsson, Per Lamm succr., [1907.] 4+544 p. 8°.
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The third annual cumulation of the valuable monthly bibliographical record contributed by Dr. Hortschansky to the *Zentralblatt*.
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- ROME. Calvi, Em. Rassegna delle principali pubblicazioni su Roma nel millennio, 800-1800, edite negli anni 1901-1905. Roma, tip. sociale Polizzi e Valentini, 1907. 34 p. 8°.
- SAMARITANS. Montgomery, J. A. The Samaritans, the earliest Jewish sect. (Bohlen lectures, 1906.) Phil., J. C. Winston Co., 1907. 7+14+358 p. 8°.
- Bibliography (2 p.).
- SHAKESPEARE. Gettemy, Mary E. Ferris. Outline studies in the Shakespearean drama. Chicago, A. Flanagan Co., [1907.] 362 p. S. Including annotated bibliography for "a small Shakespearean library." (p. 313-316.)
- SPEECH. *Bibliografía Phonética* for 1907, edited by Dr. G. Panconcelli-Calzia, appears monthly as a "separate" of the *Medizinisch-pädagogische Monatsschrift für die gesamte Sprachheilkunde* (Berlin), with independent pagination. It forms a comprehensive current bibliography of the literature of lip-reading, speech instruction and phonetics, European and American, its scope having been considerably extended for 1907. Dr. Panconcelli-Calzia has also in preparation a consolidated "Bibliographia phonetica, 1900-1905," composed of the record appearing in the *Monatsschrift* during those years, with additions; this will be completed within two years.
- TECHNICAL BOOKS. A \$500 technical library. (*In* *Technical Literature*, June, 1907. p. 265-266.)
- A list prepared in response to a request for a selection of scientific and engineering books, to cost not over \$500, suitable for a public library in a city of about 80,000 inhabitants. It is submitted for criticism and comment.
- TECHNICAL LITERATURE. The *Technical Index*, in which current technical literature is recorded in Decimal classification, entered on its fifth year with the April issue. It indexes each month the contents of 250 leading technical periodicals of all countries, giving English translation of all foreign titles and French translation of all English titles. Each entry bears a serial number and the D. C. class number, and the data given includes length of article (number of words) and the price at which a press cutting of the article will be supplied. The index follows the D. C. order in arrangement of classes, with a subject index prefaced to each number as a key; its use would be facilitated by an author index also. A special "card-indexing edition" is issued, printed on one side of the page, so that entries may be cut and pasted and kept in a cumulated file. The *Index* is published by M. J. Fitzpatrick, 51 Rue de l'Aurore, Brussels.
- IMPORTANT SALES CATALOGS
- BERNARD QUARITCH'S CATALOGUE OF WORKS OF STANDARD ENGLISH LITERATURE. June, 1907. London, 11 Grafton st., New Bond st. 128 p.+pl. D.
- BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE ORIGINAL WALDSEEMÜLLER WORLD-MAPS OF 1507 AND 1516, and the important connection of the former with the fourth centenary of the naming of America. London, Henry Stevens, Son & Stiles, 39 Great Russell st. 16 p. O.
- An interesting account of these famous maps, discovered in 1901 in the library of Wolfegg Castle. The owner, Prince Waldburg-Wolfegg-Waldsee, now offers the original maps for sale through Messrs. Henry Stevens, Son & Stiles, at a net price of \$300,000. Facsimiles of the maps were published in 1903, under the title "The oldest map with

the name America of the year 1507," of which a few copies are still to be had.

JOSEPH BAER & Co. Handschriften und drucke des mittelalters und der renaissance. Katalog 500. ii. teil: Drucke des xvi. jahrhunderts mit illustrationen deutscher kuenstler. Frankfurt a.M., Joseph Baer & Co., 1907. 378 p. il. O.

CATALOGUE DE LIVRES ANCIENS, RARE ET PRÉCIEUX: incunables et livres à figures précédant des documents inédits pour l'histoire de l'imprimerie à Naples au xv. siècle. Florence, T. De Marinis & C., Via Vecchietti 3, 1907. 16+94 p. O.

MARTINUS NIJHOFF. Manuscripts, livres, précieux et rares. [Catalogue, no. 337.] La Haye, 1907. 120 p. O.

INDEXES

REVIEW OF HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO CANADA. Index, vols. 1-10; by H. H. Langton. (Univ. of Toronto studies.) Toronto, Morang & Co., Ltd., 1907. 202 p. O.

This welcome key to Messrs. Wrong and Langton's valuable annual record of Canadian bibliography is in three divisions: index of authors, index of subjects, and index of periodicals and societies' publications. It is a careful piece of work, admirably printed, and indispensable as a compact guide to the literature relating to Canada published during the last ten years. The subject index will be especially useful to librarians, for it serves in a measure as a classified bibliography.

Notes and Queries

REPRINTING OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS.—About a year ago a large number of librarians requested that two of our publications, "Jersey street and Jersey lane" and "Zadoc Pine," both by Bunner, be reprinted. This was done. An edition of 100 copies was gotten out of each. I do not remember the exact number, but it was over 80 librarians that promised to take copies. We have sent individual letters, circularized the books, called attention twice through the columns of the *Bookbuyer*, and in various ways have brought the fact of the reprint to the attention of librarians. Up to the present time six copies of one and four of the other have been sold. Publishers are much more willing to concede to the wishes of librarians than is sometimes supposed, but such experiences as this do not help matters. If librarians expect to get their requests they must live up to their part of the agreement. There is even now a request for the reprinting of another title, but an experi-

ence of this sort would not indicate that such a step would be wise.

F. W. JENKINS,
Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

SYSTEMATIC ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTIONS.—I would suggest that the machinery of conventions be simplified, its creaking reduced to a minimum, by the formation of an *Association of Associations* with an executive body whose business it would be to manage the conventions of the country, which I suppose occur at the rate of several thousand a year. Might not thus the matter of tickets, rooms, hotel rates and fees, standards of food and lodging, be systematized in such a way that all sides would be gratified? Hotels, transportation companies, as well as the numberless patrons, could thus tell their troubles to a common center, and so bring about many an improvement. How might such an organization be formed? What if there were called a meeting of representatives from various convention-holding associations for, say, the first of October of this year at the Jamestown Exposition to discuss the matter? Would it not be fitting for the A. L. A. to take the initiative?

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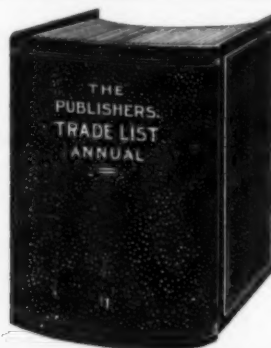
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